

February 13th, 2013 ■ Issue No. 21 ■ Volume 103

THE gateway

THE OFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

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GATEWAY CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

PRESENTS



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The Gateway is published by the Gateway Student Journalism Society (GSJS), a student-run, autonomous, apolitical not-for-profit organization, operated in accordance with the Societies Act of Alberta.

The Gateway is proud to be a founding member of the Canadian University Press.

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The Gateway periodically adjusts its circulation between 7,000 to 10,000 printed copies based on market fluctuations and other determining factors.

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The Gateway is created using Macintosh computers and HP Scanjet flatbed scanners. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images, while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. Text is set in a variety of sizes, styles, and weights of Fairplex, Utopia, Proxima Nova Extra Condensed, and Tisa. The Manitoban is The Gateway's sister paper, and we love her dearly, though "not in that way." The Gateway's game of choice is Omerta: City of Gangsters.

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Round dance celebrates elder's life

Teddy Carter
NEWS STAFF

The sounds of singing, dancing and drum beats boomed out of Dinwoodie Lounge on Friday as students and community members converged in celebration of the University of Alberta's annual round dance.

Hosted by the Aboriginal Student Services Centre (ASSC), this year's Round Dance lasted all day and well into the night in remembrance of Marge Friedel, an elder with ASSC for nearly a decade who passed away in 2011.

"The U of A should be really proud of the round dance," said ASSC director Shana Dion, who noted Friedel was a very diverse contributor to the campus community.

"It brings in amazing singers and drummers from across Alberta and into Saskatchewan every year, and it brings in a lot of people — not just the campus community, but the external community. We had over 1,400 people come to the round dance last year."

Eric Daniels, cultural consultant for ASSC, said besides honouring Friedel, the round dance also functions as a learning opportunity for many young men in the indigenous community. Daniels, recently engaged by ASSC to provide cultural protocol teachings to U of A students, provided instruction on the ceremonial position of the Oskâpêwis — or "Elder's Helper" — prior to and during the event.

"A long time ago, many of our young men would get involved in traditional practices, whether they be feasts, sweats or other types of ceremonies," Daniels explained.

"There's also different teachings for the



KATELYN MENARD

women, for different ceremonies, but they all come together to bridge that gap where young people and elderly people are coming together and working together."

This year's round dance involved contributions from more than 80 volunteers. One volunteer, Psychology major Tracy Halfe, identifies as a Métis woman who simply wanted to support her heritage.

"I love listening to live drum music ... I love that (the dance) is open. It's a dance of friendship and healing and prayer," Halfe said.

"I feel very connected to my ancestors when I'm dancing in that circle. That's what it's about for me. In my mind, I'm praying and I'm saying, 'I love you and I thank you,' because I know my ancestors prayed for me and I know that they loved me so much."

The dance began with a smudge ceremony, smoke ceremony and a feast, all of which were open to the public. Freidel's remaining family members were in attendance.

Along with other cultural consultants, Daniels will be providing additional teachings every few weeks on an ongoing basis through ASSC for indigenous students who haven't had the opportunity to learn their culture's traditional protocols.

"It really makes a big difference to how a person looks at (themselves), having (their) grass-root teachings and also (their) oral teachings about who they are s people," Daniels said.

"Their meaning of life changes ... (they) look at themselves and they way that they walk with honour."

Though upcoming cultural teachings will be directed at the U of A's indigenous population, Daniels said everyone is welcome, and encouraged people to attend.

"Our ceremonies are always family-based," he explained.

"To know who we are as the indigenous people of Canada, you have to come visit us. You have to come witness."

streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Katelyn Hoffart + Griff Cornwall

Dustin Travers ARTS I

"My friend saved me from a river, and I saved him from the same river the very next year."

Jessica Jasper PHYS ED IV

"I don't usually do too much for Valentine's Day. It's kind of just one of those holidays that shouldn't be a holiday."

Saadiq Sumar ENGINEERING V

"Last year when my girlfriend and I actually started dating. It's our one year anniversary on the 14th."

Kristina Northcott PHYS ED III

"I remember sitting at home because we were watching romantic comedies with my mom being really sad when I was in Grade Eight. I was like, 'No! Everyone else is on a date, and I'm here hanging out with my mom.'"

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School of Public Health student spreads education in Afghanistan

Michelle Mark
ONLINE REPORTER • @MAMARKE

Children in rural Afghanistan have a new door open to them thanks to University of Alberta graduate student Azalea Lehdorff, whose work on the 100 Classrooms project has resulted in four new schools being built, with more than 8,000 students enrolled.

Along with Alberta-based organization A Better World, Lehdorff has been working since 2010 to improve education in Afghanistan — particularly for girls — and hopes to build another two schools in the near future.

Currently working on her Master's degree at the School of Public Health, Lehdorff said it was her own struggles to attend school that inspired her to tackle the education system in Afghanistan.

"People always want to know, 'Why are you so passionate about this?' Well, that's why. I really did have to fight for education, run away from home and all that," she said.

"So when I saw that other people don't have the opportunities, and they don't have options like I did, then I really wanted to help."

Lehdorff's work started after she graduated from Canadian University College in Lacombe, Alberta. Accompanied by a classmate and two professors, Lehdorff travelled to Sheberghan in northern Afghanistan with the intent of eventually building 12 to 15 schools.

"We chose that area simply because we had been there previously, and they were very receptive to education," Lehdorff said.

"The Minister of Education gave us a list of schools. He said, 'The communities have requested for these schools,' which is a great sign because it means that they're initiating it."

Lehdorff said despite constant warnings about safety risks and

news of violence throughout the country, the Afghans she worked with were welcoming and eager to work alongside her on the schools.

"The Board was hesitant about allowing me to go to Afghanistan. As a student, just graduated, you know, it's risky," she said.

"But I've never felt threatened. I've travelled alone in the country, but honestly, it depends on where you go. And we always listen to the local people and make sure that we don't go places that we know are sympathizing with the Taliban."

"People always want to know, 'Why are you so passionate about this?' ... I really did have to fight for education, run away from home and all that."

AZALEA LEHDORFF
MASTER'S STUDENT, SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Lehdorff noted although barriers to girls' education in Afghanistan have been lifted slightly with the overthrow of Taliban rule, obstacles such as poverty, the need for children in the workforce and the continued tradition of arranged marriages are equally prohibitive.

"We also have heard from their perspective, 'Why go to school if you're going to be put into a marriage and have kids?' And that's kind of your life. You don't need to have a career or anything else," she said.

"Of course, we know that there are so many benefits for girls to go to school, even in the number of children they have, the maternal mortality, the 'under five' mortality of the children, (and) literacy."

Yet the battle for education is a familiar one for Lehdorff, who

described her own childhood education as "hit-and-miss," after moving to 26 different homes by the time she was 13.

Lehdorff's mother eventually pulled her and her sister out of the boarding school they were attending at the time in order to move to Tennessee.

However, Lehdorff — who had been contemplating a career in the medical field — knew that without a steady education, such a future would be impossible, and she was determined to find a way back.

"Basically, I grew up in a home where education wasn't really valued," she said.

"(Our mother) didn't have dreams for us to be going on to high school or university. That wasn't really her focus. So when we wanted to do that, it actually kind of went against what she wanted for us."

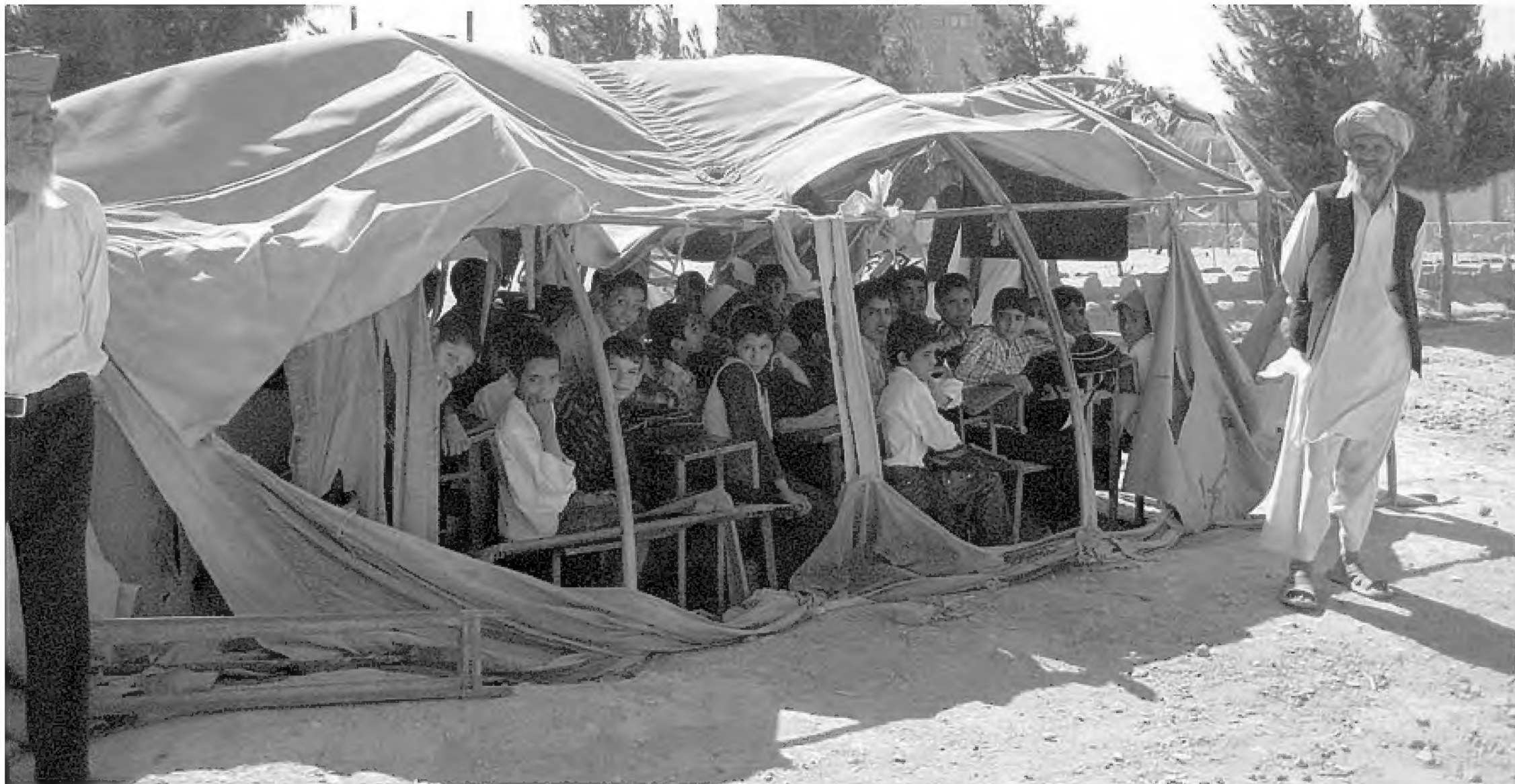
Ultimately, with the help of family friends, Lehdorff and her sister scraped together enough money to escape back to the boarding school by sitting on the floor of a Greyhound bus.

"We thought if we could just get on the bus and get back there, then we'll figure out the rest when we get there," she said.

"So that's what we did. We got back up to the school, and we worked really hard to get through, because it wasn't cheap. People helped us as well, and I was able to graduate from that same school."

Years later, Lehdorff says she doesn't want to focus on the negative aspects of her past, but instead work on creating a new future for children facing similar barriers.

"I'm willing to do anything to spread the word," she said. "I thought I had been so blessed to have been given so many opportunities that so many people don't have. And that somehow I felt gratitude, like I wanted to pass it on in whatever way I could."



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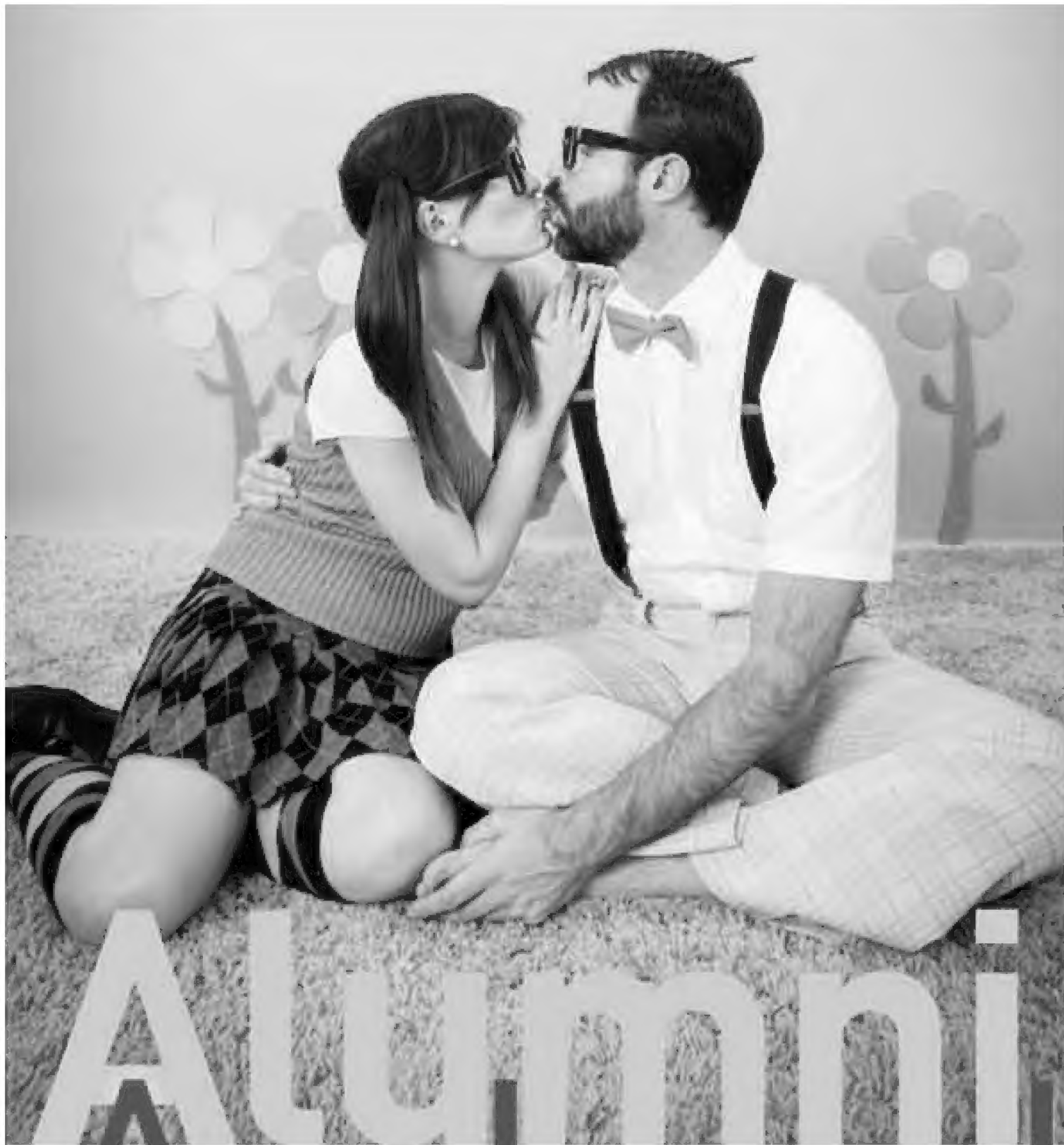
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Alumni Asked & ANSWERED

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Favourite campus make-out spots

- Carmen Douville, '05 BA:** The upstairs of the Industrial Design studio.
- Jared Smith, '98 BCom:** Back corner of the Bio-Sci building — I had a thing for girls who were smarter than me — it's actually where I met my wife!
- Amy Shostak, '07 BA:** "The Pit" in the Fine Arts Building.
- James Clover, '00 BA:** I sadly spent more time studying. I did ask a girl out once at SUB while studying, by writing my name and number on an orange. Apparently she didn't like oranges.
- Colleen Nuc, '05 BA:** I had a boyfriend who lived in Pembina Hall when it was a residence. Making out on a single plastic mattress is not quite as romantic as you may think...
- Kristine Owram, '06 BA:** The elevator in Stadium Car Park.
- Lorne Cardinal, '93 BFA:** I didn't do any of that — except on stage.
- Todd Babiak, '95 BA:** The women's bathroom at Dewey's.



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Provost seizes opportunity to impact national education

April Hudson
NEWS EDITOR ■ @APRIL_HUDSON

The University of Alberta's second-in-command is taking his passion for the education system above and beyond local levels to the Ottawa based Conference Board of Canada.

Carl Amrhein, provost and vice-president (Academic) for the university, has been away on administrative leave for the better part of a year, and is now extending that leave to accept a 14-month appointment on the board.

"My assignment with the Conference Board is to take a good, hard look at the universities (in Canada) and see if we can come up with some recommendations," Amrhein said.

"If we look at what our competitors are doing, they have, for example, a lot of direct assistance from their federal governments to recruit students internationally, to fund research, to send their students abroad. This gives them a competitive advantage that in Canada, we simply don't have."

Amrhein's appointment leaves current Acting Provost Martin Ferguson-Pell in charge, but Amrhein plans on returning after his term on the board.

"In part, I've been working on some of these issues this year. That was my project," he explained.

"If we don't find a way to get organized as Canada, then individual Canadian universities over the next 10 years will have a more and more difficult time competing."

Amrhein's extended leave received approval from the U of A's Board of Governors on Feb. 8.

"This is a terrific opportunity for both (Amrhein) and the U of A. The appointment is evidence, I think, of the University of Alberta's stellar national reputation as a thought leader and a vision-driven



SUPPLIED BY RICHARD SIEMENS

institution," wrote university President Indira Samarasekera in a news release.

"We are at a crossroads in the history of Canada's post-secondary education, and we are pleased that the Conference Board has tapped one of our own executives for this critical role — but needless to say, we look forward to (Amrhein's) return to the U of A once his work as visiting executive is complete."

For his part, Amrhein envisions a country-to-country collaboration as the future of the education system.

"One of the things that I think is going to become much more normal 10 or 15 years from now is students will not just visit other universities, but students will be working in two universities on the same degree," he explained.

He added this is already beginning to happen at the graduate level, and the next step in this process is to see it happen at the undergraduate level.

"If professors and their Chairs and Deans want this kind of activity

to emerge, then both sides have to change a little bit," he said.

"The U of A will have to be ready to accept courses from other universities more quickly and more easily, and the other universities will have to be more willing to accept our courses."

Amrhein's devotion to improving Canada's education system stems in part from his own experience growing up in a large family in Pennsylvania.

"Most of the people where I grew up ended up going either to the coal fields or the steel mills in Pennsylvania. And it was the public education system that was available to me that allowed me to imagine doing something really very different from what I might have expected," he said.

"I was, in my own personal experience, the beneficiary of access to the kind of public education system we have in Alberta. And to me, that opened up an enormous world."

Amrhein will be returning full-time to the U of A July 1, 2014.

Faculty centennial lecture series delves into successes and celebrations of med program

Billy-Ray Belcourt
NEWS WRITER ■ @BILLYRAYB

To commemorate its 100th year of existence, the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry held the latest instalment of its Centennial Lecture Series on Monday.

Titled Heart Matters, the lecture focused on the topic of heart disease and the history of medical cardiology innovations in Edmonton and at the U of A. Faculty Vice-Dean of Research Marek Michalak joined Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute director Paolo Raggi as speakers for the event.

"I think this is a very important, very creative series of lectures that brings ... the spirit of us trying to translate our knowledge, particularly when it comes to basic sciences," Michalak said.

As an expert in cell biology, Michalak put emphasis on the significance of the endoplasmic reticulum, an organelle inside cells that serves a variety of functions, which is important to the basic functioning of many vital organs.

"It has the ability to control a lot of the functions of organelles that are limited to certain specializations, like energy metabolism. Important, in terms of pathology, is the ability of this organelle to carry out

the function called 'quality control of protein folding,'" he explained.

Many human pathologies are linked to malfunctioning proteins, also known as protein folding diseases, including Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and cancer.

Michalak asserted that the endoplasmic reticulum is especially relevant to the development of heart disease because it regulates various pathways to the heart.

"The disruption of (the endoplasmic reticulum) homeostasis results in the activation of coping responses that are an integral part of cardiac pathology," he said.

By further studying the endoplasmic reticulum and its connection to protein folding, Michalak said researchers will be better able to understand the foremost methods of preventing heart failure at a microbiological level.

This clinical study, among others over the past century, has placed Edmonton and the U of A at the forefront of many profound medical innovations.

Paolo Raggi explored a different facet of heart research — acute myocardial infarctions, or heart attacks. Raggi explained that in 2005, the U of A initiated trials to discover the best approach to treat people suffering from heart attacks.

"Today, we see immediate treatment in the ambulance," he said, crediting this fact as a result of the university's trials.

"(The trials also) brought about the circulation of the vital heart response, which is now in place Canada-wide."

Raggi added that Edmonton's medical institutions have been the site of numerous groundbreaking and life-saving procedures involving cardiovascular diseases. The first open heart surgery in Canada, he pointed out, was conducted in Edmonton in 1956.

"We used the first mechanical heart for children, called the Berlin Heart, implanted in the youngest patient in 2005," he said.

Edmonton's medical reputation has also been established as a highly-efficient and capable field of performance in regards to cardiovascular operations.

"We perform a whole lot of surgeries of all kinds — about 1,800 open heart surgeries a year ... and about 70 to 80 heart and lung transplants," Raggi said.

As a result, Raggi added Edmonton has the lowest mortality rate for acute myocardial infarctions in Canada.

"You should be proud of what's going on under your roof," he said.

Conference to ignite Alberta post-secondary discussion

Students’ Union Vice-President (External) Petros Kusmu initiates conversation about higher education at the provincial level

Michelle Mark
ONLINE REPORTER • @MAMARKE

The future of post-secondary education in Alberta will be thrust into the spotlight next week as students, government officials and institutional leaders gather at the University of Alberta for the IGNITE: Ideas for Post-Secondary Education conference.

Hosted by the Council of Alberta University Students, the Alberta Students’ Executive Council and the Alberta Graduate Council, the conference will run Feb. 21 and 22, and will feature an array of speakers and panel discussions on issues such as technology and educational quality and accessibility.

■ **“We talk one-on-one with the government, we talk one-on-one with the faculty associations, but there’s never a really big group dialogue on bigger issues.”**

PETROS KUSMU
STUDENTS’ UNION VICE-PRESIDENT (EXTERNAL)

Students’ Union Vice-President (External) Petros Kusmu said the idea for the conference was sparked by the lack of communication between the various stakeholders in post-secondary education — from student associations and organizations to the government and the post-secondary institutions themselves.

“We talk one-on-one with the government, we talk one-on-one with the faculty associations, but there’s never a really big group dialogue on bigger issues beyond, ‘Oh, there should be more money for grants,’” Kusmu said.

“There’s a strong desire from the Ministry for wanting post-secondary education institutions to be innovative. They want to find ways to be a lot more cost-efficient, but they also want to find ways for them to be innovative ... this is a conversation they’re going to have with or without us. So we might as well be at the forefront of that conversation. Let’s make sure that we have our thoughts heard on various issues that affect us down the road, even though we’re not advocating them right now.”

Kusmu described the event as more of an “overall engagement plan” than a conference, explaining that each panel will be followed by a breakout session from which a post-conference report will be compiled and relayed to students, and eventually to the Ministry of Enterprise and Advanced Education as well.

“They have to draft a vision of, ‘Where do we want money to be going to in this Ministry? What are the results we’re looking for?’” he said.

“And by us providing these kind of reports to the Ministry, we’re hoping that can really shape what the future of post-secondary education literally looks like.”

Kusmu said the conference is coming just in time to respond to the swiftly changing educational



POST-SECONDARY POWERHOUSE Petros Kusmu is the brains behind the upcoming post-secondary IGNITE conference. DAN MCKECHNIE

and economic atmospheres, where new political and institutional leadership, fiscal instability and constant technological innovations have all become major issues for all involved in post-secondary education.

“There’s just so much change happening,” he said. “With a new minister coming in, with all these talks about financing, the government really wanted to have a desire for

innovation. There could be no more perfect time for this conference to be happening than now.”

According to Kusmu, feedback from the conference will come from a mixture of students, faculty associations, and even business and nonprofit organizations in an effort to incorporate responses from all stakeholders.

“It’s just to form these kinds of relationships, and making sure

that these kinds of dialogues exist between all the various stakeholders ... it’s something that rarely happens, but it’s something that I feel should happen,” he said.

“I truly believe that we can make a very strong evolutionary impact on how the government finances post-secondary education in this province, and I believe that they will seriously take into consideration what we have to say.”



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SELENA PHILLIPS-BOYLE

Canadian ambassador to China offers insights into new president

Andrea Ross

NEWS WRITER ■ @ROSSANDREA

Canada’s ambassador to China privileged the University of Alberta with a rare appearance and speech at the Myer Horowitz Theatre on Monday.

In a presentation titled *The New Chinese Leadership: Its Anticipated Effect on Dealing With China*, Guy Saint-Jacques regaled the crowded theatre with discussion about Canada’s changing relationship with China and the implications of a new Chinese president.

Organized by the China Institute and the Government of Alberta, Saint-Jacques’ speech delved into Canada’s current economic and social partnership with future Chinese President Xi Jinping’s reformed government.

Saint-Jacques elaborated on what Canadians can expect from the new leader, and said Canadians can benefit from China’s economic growth and friendly economic ties with Jinping.

“One thing to expect from the new leadership is the focus will have to be on the economy. As China transitions to a more sustainable model of growth and strives as a global economic and political power, it will have major implications for Canadians looking to access a growing Chinese market,” Saint-Jacques explained.

“The good news is that Canada is well-received in China. Canada is privileged to enjoy an active relationship with (them).”

Saint-Jacques seeks to strengthen the economic and social bonds between Canada and China, and with Jinping set to take command this year, Saint-Jacques believes Canada can have a positive influence on China’s future. However, social changes won’t be immediate.

“Despite the understanding of the need for reform amongst the certain elite party members, China’s top leadership remains likely to believe that the Communist Party needs to remain supreme and that near to mid-term reform should never compromise China’s socialist state,” he said.

“Civil and political rights in China remain strained, (but) we might expect to see positive change in the near future to media freedoms, judicial reforms, financial reforms and even possibly the elimination of the controversial one child policy.”

Saint-Jacques stressed the importance of maintaining strong economic trade with China, and believes that due to its exponential economic growth China is a partner worth expanding trade with.

“In 2012, China overcame the UK to become our second (biggest) export market. Our exports last year from China were 19.3 billion, up 15 per cent from the previous year,” he said. “Investment has been one of the main drivers of Chinese growth in recent years.”

In an effort to focus on Canada’s economic benefit from its relations with China, Saint-Jacques highlighted in particular the

mutually beneficial educational exchange between both countries.

“Education is one of the key areas of our relationship (with China.) As a result of efforts invested by efforts by Canadian universities such as the U of A, the number of student permits has increased rapidly. We now have more than 60,000 Chinese students in Canada, contributing over two billion dollars to the economy, making education one of our top exports to China. China is by far the top source of international students currently studying in Canada,” he explained.

“Over 475 active agreements between Chinese and Canadian institutions are in place, and I’m especially pleased to note the extent of (the partnership) the U of A has developed with China. This is really a role model to be proud of.”

Ultimately, Saint-Jacques hopes to deepen Canada’s relationship with China’s new leader, seeing Jinping’s future presidency as an opportunity to build on the positive momentum already started through economic trade.

Though he remains cautiously optimistic when it comes to China’s economic reform, he also maintains a sense of cautious pessimism on its political reform. As China’s political future shifts to a new leader, Saint-Jacques believes Canada must adapt as well.

“We don’t expect any major policy changes in the first year to 18 months. As China changes, we are adjusting our approach,” he said.

news briefs

COMPILED BY **Katelyn Hoffart**
+ **April Hudson**

NEW STUDENT CONNECT PROJECT TARGETS CENTRALIZATION OF UNIVERSITY SERVICES

A new committee has been created to help transform student services on campus into a more accessible one-stop spot as the Office of the Registrar moves towards a new delivery model.

Student Connect is the name of the new initiative, which aims to centralize student services such as course withdrawals, program changes, fee payment and general information and guidance. By this September, students could see a host of services located on the first floor of the Administration building, accompanied by a new online model.

Students’ Union Vice-President (Academic) Dustin Chelen currently sits on two committees intended to help guide the direction of Student Connect. The first is the Student Advisory Committee, which gives students the chance to provide feedback on the new vision of the Registrar’s Office in coming years.

The second is the newly-formed Student Connect Advisory Committee. This includes students as well as other members, such as the Dean of Students and the Registrar, who provide insight as to how the new model will take shape.

“Campus is huge, and so it’s hard for students — first-year students or even fourth-year students — to know where to go to get help,” Chelen said.

“The underlying idea is that if you have a question, be it how to withdraw, how to pay your fees, what courses you need to take — there should be one place to go where you know how to access someone who can help you out.”

In a 2009 Academic Planning submission, the SU made a recommendation to the university to consolidate these student services.

Now that Student Connect is moving forward, Chelen hopes students will no longer have to deal with multiple service

providers across campus in order to receive the aid they need.

“If you take a look at how confusing some really simple things can be, like dropping a course or paying a fee, it really shouldn’t be that difficult,” he noted.

“The ... idea here is, let’s make academic services and Registrar’s Office services easier to access for students.”

The committee met at the beginning of February, and will reconvene two more times before the end of the Winter term.

U OF A APPOINTS NEW VICE-PROVOST AND REGISTRAR

The University of Alberta has finally appointed a new Vice-Provost and Registrar as a replacement for Gerry Kendal, whose sixth year in the position will end June 30.

The University of British Columbia’s Lisa Collins, who currently serves as UBC’s project director and associate registrar of enrolment services, will be coming into the position July 1, a decision approved by the U of A’s Board of Governors during a Feb. 8 meeting.

Among a number of degrees and qualifications, Collins possesses a certificate in university and college administration from the University of Manitoba, and is working towards a certificate in strategic leadership from UBC’s Sauder School of Business, according to a release by U of A Acting Provost Martin Ferguson-Pell.

“Lisa Collins is known as one of the rising stars in the registrar’s professional community in Canada,” Ferguson-Pell wrote.

“She is experienced in high-level strategic advising on major initiatives, policy-making and policy interpretation, and the administration of enrolment services, admissions, and student services.”

The release added that Collins was attracted to the U of A because of the university’s vision and values.

“Having seen the university’s ambition and recognition of the contribution of talented people, Ms. Collins looks forward to learning the U of A’s unique dynamics,” it said.

COMPULSORY TABLING

Board of Governors Representative pushes for mandatory tabling

Katelyn Hoffart

STAFF REPORTER ■ @KATELYNHOFFART

In an effort to inform more students about the Students’ Union’s operations and representatives, one member of Students’ Council is considering taking steps to push mandatory tabling for council members in SUB.

Board of Governors Representative Brent Kelly is encouraging the effort after setting up a Meet Your Representative table allowing students to approach him on a personal basis with SU-related questions or concerns.

“I guess the broadest trend identified is that the average student knows the Students’ Union exists and knows about elections, but doesn’t know anything beyond (that) they exist and that you can vote,” Kelly said.

“I think my attempt at tabling was a small attempt to alleviate that.”

Garnering around 50 students in the eight hours he spent tabling

over two weeks, Kelly said this could turn into “thousands (of hours) throughout the year,” if made compulsory for other members of the SU.

■ **“If we were to do something like this, I would hope that it wouldn’t be a huge time burden on any of the members ... You have to be excited about what you’re doing, for people to be excited that you’re doing it.”**

COLTEN YAMAGISHI
UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA STUDENTS’ UNION PRESIDENT

Kelly isn’t alone in his advocacy for tabling. Student unions at other institutions such as Grant MacEwan and the University of Calgary have already made this practice

mandatory for their councillors.

Although Kelly acknowledged that many councillors and executives already have busy schedules, he feels setting up for a few hours even just once a week should be viable.

The first steps to seeing this change take place would be taking it to the Council Administration Committee (CAC).

The motion could then be brought up during Students’ Council to vote on whether to change by-laws or standing orders to include compulsory tabling.

Although Kelly said he has emailed executives regarding this idea, discussion on how to go through with it has varied.

“CAC had mentioned some time ago that they were thinking of doing something to this effect, but when I followed up, it didn’t really go anywhere. And same thing when President Yamagishi mentioned that he was sort of interested in taking on some tabling initiative — when I followed up, he said,

‘Well, I was thinking of doing this instead: just tabling at events,’” Kelly explained.

“So I was sort of frustrated. I said, ‘I’m just going to do it.’”

Although SU executives haven’t been tabling for the purpose Kelly is hoping for, they have tabled for other initiatives, such as the recently-approved PAW Centre and ongoing SUB renovations, as well as at open houses.

While SU President Colten Yamagishi agrees face time with students is valuable, scheduling and coordinating shifts would be problematic.

“I guess we had a different idea of what it would be — that we would do it more for big issues or projects that we needed to collect consultation from students on, whereas (Kelly) wanted it to be more of an outreach initiative,” Yamagishi explained.

He added that other communication forms, such as electronic mail-outs, have proven successful, generating an average of 50 responses

when sent out.

However, he remains open to compulsory tabling, should an effective plan be established.

“If we were to do something like this, I would hope that it wouldn’t be a huge time burden on any of the members, because I think that’s when you end up just getting people sitting at the table, really bored,” Yamagishi said.

“You have to be excited about what you’re doing for people to be excited that you’re doing it.”

Although Kelly hopes to see compulsory tabling by September 2013, he wants a quality policy in place outlining how the tabling system would work in greater detail.

“If a sustained program could be set up for a number of years ... you can imagine how many meetings you’re going to have with students over a decade. It’s incredible — think of the magnitude,” Kelly said.

“I think there’s a lot of potential. For a little input, I think you’d get a lot of output.”

\$250,000 to fund international linguistics research project

Mona Bai
NEWS WRITER ■ @BAIMENGYANG

After devoting a lifetime of work to the research of linguistics, Philosophy professor Jeffry Pelletier is uniting with researchers in Germany to put a €250,000 award to good use.

Pelletier was one of seven people worldwide to receive the award from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. Nominated by German scholar Tibor Kiss, Pelletier will be using the funds to delve further into the logic, or lack thereof, in language elements such as nouns.

“One of the things that might come out of (this) is help with translation between languages. So in particular, we’re just looking at English and German, but it ought to work for all kinds of languages,” Pelletier said.

“If you use language in one way, and think you’re describing the world, can you report that or reflect it accurately to somebody else, especially if they speak a different language?”

Pelletier’s work started when he was a graduate student 40 years ago interested in “trying to discover the real truth about the world.”

“One of the real things I was interested in was (noun) mass and count difference, because people had always said that there’s this important difference between ‘stuff’ and ‘things,’ and that ‘stuff’ is what’s indicated by mass nouns, and ‘things’ are what’s indicated by count nouns,” he explained.

“You can measure amounts of ‘stuff,’ like a quart of milk, but you can’t say ‘a quart of person’ ... When I learned that difference, I was astonished.”

Pelletier has been arguing for four decades that there are numerous differences that show up in grammar, which don’t have anything to



KEVIN SCHENK

do with reality.

“People never believed me, but I argued it anyways. Some of the people don’t believe, I think, because all they know is English,” he said.

“Here’s an example: a lot of languages have this grammatical gender distinction of masculine, feminine (and) neuter nouns. And there are certain endings on adjectives you use to match whether nouns are masculine or feminine or neuter. But actually, the nouns don’t often have anything to do with males or females ... so there’s an example of a language fact that doesn’t seem to have anything to do with the world.”

He also explained an idea he had about a “universal grinder” — which can turn count nouns into

mass nouns.

“You put a book in it — a book is a count noun — turn the crank, and spew stuff out on the floor. You have book all over the floor; you can tell that’s a mass term, and I thought, ‘Well, you know, maybe you could do that with everything, with a big enough, powerful enough grinder.’”

Pelletier said he hopes the grant will open the way to study a large corpus of nouns.

“There’s already a German investigation of count and mass in German newspaper articles and books and stuff, and now I’d like to do the same thing for English, and I’d like to see how they differ from one another,” he said.

“Mostly, I just do it because I’m curious how these work.”

SFU students react to Bali poisoning reports

Leah Bjornson
THE PEAK (SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY)

BURNABY (CUP) — On Jan. 25, *The Province* ran an article claiming SFU students became ill in Bali on Jan. 18 after drinking methanol-laced spirits, causing some of those students at the South-East Asia field school to respond forcefully against the report.

On Jan. 23, SFU authorities were surprised to receive a call from *Province* news reporter Ian Austin, who was investigating a night of drinking in Bali which resulted in the students becoming “violently ill,” according to the published article.

“This was the first time that my office had been made aware that anything happened,” said Scott McLean, acting director of Public Affairs and Media Relations at SFU.

After looking into the matter further, McLean said he feels the connection between methanol-laced spirits and the students’ sickness might have been “only speculation” on *The Province’s* part.

“We believe the cause to be over-consumption, due to the fact that there are no lingering health effects,” he said.

Several students on the trip responded quite vehemently to the article, commenting on Facebook, Twitter and *The Province’s* own website.

Field school student Leonie

Kuijvenhoven wrote in the comments on *The Province’s* website, “This article is grossly exaggerated, and the author is clearly very misinformed.”

“The author has for some reason included us in a sensationalist article about a very real problem, but should perhaps think of checking his sources before publishing an article that will likely cause undue distress for the loved ones of students involved in this field school,” fellow student Nova Chamberlin commented.

■ **“The author has for some reason included us in a sensationalist article about a very real problem, but should perhaps think of checking his sources before publishing ...”**

NOVA CHAMBERLIN
STUDENT, SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Methanol-laced spirits in Bali, Lombok and the Gili islands have been responsible for recent blindings, illnesses and even deaths of many tourists and Indonesians. The situation has become so serious that Australia has even issued a travel advisory for tourists bound for Indonesia.

This danger can be traced back

to the rise of import taxes on alcohol in Indonesia in 2010. After the price of importing alcohol skyrocketed (reaching a 380 per cent import tax), many turned to the black market and the bootlegging industry to purchase cheap liquor. Unfortunately, the ingredients used to make the alcohol are not only cheap — they are dangerous.

Despite these dangers, SFU students insist they were well informed of the risks of drinking in Indonesia.

“They are making a provincial news story out of a few adults getting sick after drinking too much,” said field school student Jamshed Colah in an interview with *The Peak*.

“As a class we have no idea why anyone at (*The Province*) would have been spurred to write this ... We were briefed before leaving at SFU, and again while here in Bali by our tour guides, drivers and by Dr. (Michael) Howard, (the field school coordinator). Drinking is actually minimal by the whole group.”

With concern as to the results of this inquiry, McLean said the school is now looking at policies surrounding the field school.

“The safety of our students is of utmost importance,” he said.

The university is currently considering sending two representatives to meet the field school in Thailand to investigate the incident and provide counseling services for the students.

events listings

The Missionary Position

Feb. 7 - 16, 7:30 p.m.
Timms Centre for the Arts

Academic Women’s Association “Future Directions” Townhall Meeting

Feb. 13, 5 - 6 p.m.
122 Education South

Arctic Glaciers Seminar

Feb. 14, 5 - 6:30 p.m.
Aon Room, Alumni House

Family Day Open House

Feb. 18, 12 - 4 p.m.
Rutherford House Historic Site

Staging Diversity 2013: Artist-In-Residence Workshop Series

Feb. 23, 12:30 - 2 p.m.
Artsbased Research Studio 4-104
Education North

Chris Hedges: Days of Destruction, Days of Revolt

Feb. 24, 6:30 - 9 p.m.
CCIS 1-430

State of the University Address

Feb. 28, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.
ECHA L1-490

Opinion

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Volunteer

Opinion meetings Wednesdays at 5 p.m. in 3-04 SUB. C'mon by!

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Cutting undergrad programs will harm all U of A students

AS THE PROVINCIAL CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT DISCUSSES ways to address a fifth consecutive government deficit, the University of Alberta has already proposed reducing undergraduate spaces as a means of cutting costs. Despite being promised 2 per cent increase per year over three years last year, the university will be facing a very different situation. Rather than making cuts in all areas of the university, this round will target specific programs, namely for undergraduates. Decisions such as these will directly impact current undergraduate students and future university students.

Premier Alison Redford's Jan. 24 address to the province shared with Albertans the imminent financial pressures felt by the province due to a \$6 billion shortage in oil revenues. On Saturday, an economic summit was held to discuss viable strategies for the province's budget. The decisions and ideas made by these individuals will have direct repercussions on life for every Albertan as changes are made to spending in health, infrastructure, government programs, services, environment, advanced education and other areas.

This summit received criticism that the selected speakers were biased through their almost unanimous agreement that a provincial sales tax is a viable solution. Opposition leader Danielle Smith had the sense to say that a sales tax will hit low-income Albertans the hardest. NDP leader Brian Mason noted that, "Nobody talked about a progressive income tax." Another means to generate revenue that was conspicuously off the discussion table was the option to increase taxes on oil companies and other corporations.

When Wildrose strategist Tom Flanagan touted the best solution as "Ralph Klein-style budget cuts," personal memories from elementary of worn-out textbooks and a high-school that couldn't afford to fix broken blinds resurfaced. Alberta Federation of Labour president Gil McGowan said it best: "We've seen this movie, and it was a horror story. It vapourized an entire generation of teachers and nurses." But as the government makes cuts rather than finding sustainable means to generate revenues and diversify our economy, institutions like the University of Alberta are put in a difficult position.

Students across most faculties — most strongly in Arts — have felt the repercussions of the cuts made at the university in the past two years. Rather than receiving a seven-page course outline on the first day of classes, most of professors have stopped printing material for classes. Numerous faculties are being stretched to the limits without the support previously provided by administrative staff.

Before the provincial government has even had an opportunity to officially announce its latest budget, President Indira Samarasekera is suggesting strategies the university will pursue to balance the budget. It's almost as if she was waiting for the first possible excuse to lay out her next agenda. Samarasekera has suggested decreasing the number of spaces available for undergraduate students. As a research institution, she hopes the University of Alberta will place its focus on graduate students.

Although it's easy to understand the value of graduate studies and the incredible amount of world-leading research that is currently being undertaken at the University, it is a mistake to undermine the basis of our educational system by cutting funding to undergraduate programs. Samarasekera maintains that other institutions such as Grant MacEwan can provide better programming at the undergraduate level. While strong in some areas, other institutions are not yet able to provide the breadth of education and topics of study experienced by students at the University of Alberta. Additionally, it is a tremendous asset for undergraduate students to be able to learn from some of the top academics in their field — an opportunity that we have here at the University of Alberta, where undergrads looking to participate in research allows some to explore learning at a graduate level early.

Additionally, the University of Alberta will not be the only institution facing cuts during the next budget. Grant MacEwan has already announced a hiring freeze for its staff in response to the provincial deficit. This will stall progress for the institution as it seeks to expand undergraduate programming. If all institutions are making cuts, we will see fewer students who are being granted access to post-secondary education in the next few years.

The topics discussed on Saturday and the decisions that come out of this will have an immediate impact on the lives of all post-secondary students in Alberta. It's time for policy-makers to gather their courage and find ways to diversify our economy and find a sustainable plan for future generations rather than focusing on solving immediate solutions with a short-term perspective. In doing this we will find a way to maintain quality services within the province, including the services offered at our institution.

Selena Phillips-Boyle
PHOTO EDITOR



The Vatican would later admit that it was hours before they realized he wasn't in one of his prayer-naps.

ANTHONY GOERTZ

letters to the editor

Lister not a battle worth fighting for the SU

I have been disappointed with the direction the Student Union has chosen this past year.

My main concerns revolve around how the Student Union has handled the recent changes in Lister Hall.

I understand that due diligence might have been lacking in the required changes, but I feel the ensuing process has dragged on to unnecessary lengths and expense. The Students' Union has shown a lack of maturity through the whole process, and has recently exacerbated the situation by seeking legal action against the university.

I understand these changes could affect the "culture" of Lister but wasn't it time? With countless reports of alcohol abuse and vandalism, a major mishap seemed unavoidable. I believe the university administration made the necessary changes to maintain the health and safety of its students.

I urge the Students' Union to drop this case and continue moving forward. Since these Lister Hall changes the Students' Union has accomplished very little except pay \$40,000 in unbudgeted money toward professional fees.

This case could go on for years and burden future Students' Union councillors and members. Students are ready for the Students' Union to take on a new direction this semester.

Lucas Nickel
ALES, III

Science model outdated

I admit it is getting old, the whole Evolution vs. Intelligent Design/Creationist debate, mostly because confused and conflicted people keep writing on the subject and get so caught up in their own hell-bent, fiery rhetoric that they completely miss the point.

I agree that "science class should be a place where students learn about science regardless of the personal beliefs of the teacher or the state legislature." In fact the state has no right to dictate that classrooms preach theories of divine origins just as they have no right to demand that evolution be unilaterally presented to students as the only way to perceive science. A student should never be put in a situation where he must adopt a particular set of beliefs or risk being discredited. While evolution is a highly substantiated and credible theory, anyone can see that it is not complete. Evolution falls short of providing absolute origins of life for anything from humans to E.coli. That is where die-hard evolutionists fall into their own trap. Where is the evidence? the explanation? the proof? You can call it an extrapolation of events, a logical continuity or whatever you would like. Christians just call it faith.

The article argued for the continual subjugation of a set of beliefs and ideas that, like it or not, are inextricable from the content of any science class. To deny this is just ignorant, but unfortunately that is the generally accepted practice of most science classes here on campus. It's time to move on from an out-dated model of

science and bring this discussion to the next level where real intelligence can see the realities of both evolution and creation in a collective context and make it's own deductions. Because as I see it nothing short of the completion of the Theory of Evolution or the second-coming of Christ is a reason for anyone to be intellectually obligated to hold either belief exclusively in order to maintain their academic integrity.

Ashley Dallinger-Williams
ARTS III

Letters to the editor should be sent to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca (no attachments, please).

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous, or otherwise hateful in nature. The Gateway also reserves the right to publish letters online.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study, and student ID number to be considered for publication.

Well, Valentine's Day is upon us which means I'll spend another Feb. 14th eating cookie dough ice cream, crying and watching 500 Days of Summer for the 50th time. It's truly a sad sight to behold.

If you want to brighten up my Valentine's day you can send me some letters. You could even send them in on a heart shaped piece of construction paper with glitter and sparkling things on it. Be my Valentine please. It's so lonely over here.

LRT line names aren't about pizazz



Ryan Stephens
OPINION STAFF

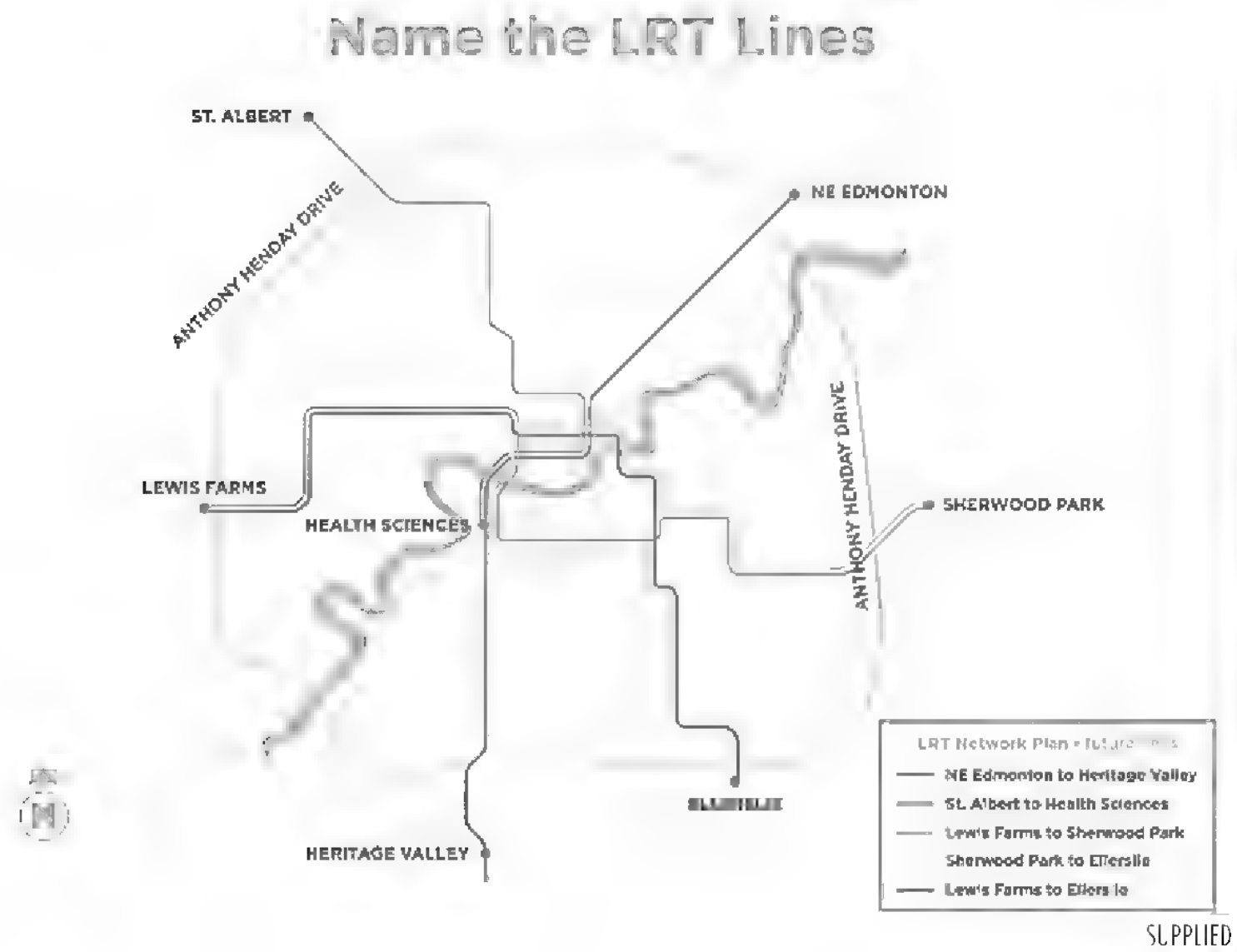
According to popular sentiment, the only way to call a city initiative successful in Edmonton is if it's adorned with a cutting-edge title that will leave a lasting impression on people far and wide.

With the recent announcement of the city's long term plans for Edmonton Transit's LRT lines, many urbanites are disappointed at what they perceive to be Edmonton's failure to choose the best names for its five future lines. No, the chosen names — Capital, Metro, Energy, Valley and Festival lines — don't exactly jump off the page, nor do they symbolically cohere very well with their proposed routes through the city. But in an efficient system, the purpose of naming transit lines is not for some kind of grand cohesion: it's for differentiation.

Those five words, all suggestive of some facet of Edmonton's identity, are simply meant to be short enough to be memorable, while different enough to prevent confusion between them.

It's unnecessary for the names, with one word to encompass the direction of a particular line or even the en-route amenities. There are few words that could achieve that. Instead, they're simply buzzwords, immediately recognizable to anybody who can speak English, rather than words that would only resonate with Edmontonians.

While many complain that the names don't have enough pizazz, some argue that if Edmonton is going to pick such bland names, we might as well give each line a number or a colour. Numbers would work best if the system was positioned in



a way that it could be read in a linear pattern on a map, as in line 1 farthest east and line 5 farthest west. As with all transit systems, lines disperse from the centre outwards and in several directions, leaving no discernible linearity. Colours are only useful in supporting roles, not as primary markings. Not only does "Purple Line" sound ridiculous, but their retentive strength comes not from the difference in the word but the difference in the actual colours, which is strengthened by their attachment to separate buzzwords.

It's important to remember that these are long-term plans. We're not going to wake up next Monday with five new lines and dozens of extra stations without an idea about how to get around. As such, the common complaint that the city has made yet another knee-jerk decision and should have put more time into the naming process is unfounded. The benefit of naming the lines as soon as possible is that as the lines grow over the years, the names will gradually become ingrained into our subconscious. What's more, no longer will newspaper headlines read, "work scheduled for LRT

expansion" but now, "work scheduled for Valley LRT line," undoubtedly adding another degree of anticipation to the construction process as each line goes ahead.

When it's complete, all stations running multiple lines will have sufficient markings to ensure every train entering a station will visually and aurally announce where it's going. If stations are outfitted with proper signage then anybody with a smartphone, map or the willingness to talk to a fellow commuter will be able to discern the necessary steps to reach their destination. With the selected names, both citizens and visitors of Edmonton should have no problem finding their way around the city.

We often argue that if something is done, it must be done the right way. But the right way is not always the most stylish. We are certainly a proud city, and when we do something grand, we often want to give it a grand name, and one that is personal to the city. When it comes to a mass transit system, let's be a little less self-conscious and realize that above all else, utility and universality are key.

#3LF

three lines free

Got something that you need to get off your mind? Either email us at threelinesfree@gateway.ualberta.ca, tweet @threelinesfree, or message us at www.thegatewayonline.ca/threelinesfree

Snap kills Dumbledore
To the girl in the blue sweater and her boyfriend who always sit in CAB, the couches aren't your bedroom, please stop your PDA its ruined my appetite too many times. Appreciated :)
I make my snow angels face down so they'll be smiling :)
I actually understood 80% of the comics. #achievementunlocked
Butts
Can I have a shoulder to cry on after I fail all of my midterms?
To all the people who got med school interviews from UofC; I jelly you guys.
Sometimes I feel like I don't have a social life. Actually, that might be true. Should I be sad?
What would you recommend eating at Ho's-Ho's for the first-time eater there?
Fuck off Rodrigo
Ich bin ein dachshund!
Fuck education,
Gross incompetence will win.
Idiocracy.
My friends are at the strippers
I'm doing linear algebra
God dammit
I wish I could love you
But you keep me away
Please don't let me die this horrible way...
Succulently moist Dicks

Why can I not force myself to get any of this homework done unless it is due the next day?
Hucking that big loogie into the urinal before you piss creates a crapton of airborne bacteria for your consumption.
Really? \$40 fee for not paying all \$7G of my tuition all at one. Sorry, but I really don't have that kind of cash lying around in September. And \$40 = lunch. And lunch > the bourgeois
I WANT ALL THE CUDDLES! ALL THE TIME! JUST GIMMEE DEM CUDDLES!!!
OMG Street fashion he knit his own scarf!!!! I just died of a heart-on.
STOP EATING FUCKING CARROTS IN CLASS YOU ASSHOLES! Find something QUIET.
Just got to spend four minutes after class walking and talking with my crush. Best four minutes of my week! :3
3 times now ordered from A&W in hub. Look if you do not like your co-workers do not bitch about them to me or on this side of the counter. I now hate ordering there bc of how uncomfortable I am. STOP!
I need a boyfriend ASAP!
YAYAYAYAY Golden Bears Hockey Team!
nectarines at superstore....does this mean spring is finally here?

Cotton candy and the smell of O-Chem labs, worst combination ever.
The Lep's World game app rocks! It's just like MARIO!
To the 2 girls in SOC 375 are you really that stupid or are you both just jerks? pass the damn class attendance sign in sheet!
He had breath so bad I was looking forward for a fart.
What is the point of having wifi in every building on campus if it's also shit in every building on campus. I know all ISP's in Canada are shit, but Telus is a special sort of unfortunate shit.
Brace yourselves, the Valentines Day haters are coming
I will undoubtedly fail my Art History mid term next week.
What is the State of Nature you ask?
Junior High
You can learn what you find out Or out can find out what you learn
I try not to dance while listening to my iPod in the library but sometimes its impossible
Last week I was strung out on meth and I killed a man. Just to watch him die.
The Gateway reserves the right to refuse publication of any 3LF it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature.

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Annie Pumphrey
POINT

The problem in the age-old cat versus dog debate is the way in which these domesticated animals are judged in their relationship to human beings. In order to do properly justice to these animals, it is necessary to view them as individual entities. And as soon as you take away the human element, it’s clear the cat reigns supreme. If a cat and a dog were to engage in a game of chess, the cat would win, and the dog would throw up on the chess board and then eat his own vomit. Cats are the epitome of intellect, whereas dogs are merely beasts who are absorbed in satisfying their immediate needs.

If one were to observe cats in relationship to Maslow’s Hierarchy of Needs, it would be clear that they’re far beyond the lower levels of the triangle. Cats are evolved to the point where they needn’t stress over attaining requirements of safety, belonging and physiological needs. Unlike the overly-dependent dog, cats have a highly refined sense of self-esteem and spend their lives basking in the pursuit of self-actualization. This is portrayed in the musical *Cats*, for example, as playwright Andrew Lloyd Weber looks at the sophisticated inner struggles and philosophical musings of felines. A musical focusing

on dogs would be an imminent failure, for they do not hold what Weber refers to as “the mystical divinity of unashamed felinity.”

One of the common arguments against cats is that they’re incapable of showing affection. This is because cats are *above* affection. It is also important to understand that cats are not a companion animal; they have no interest in unnecessary friendship. Cats are *above* friendship. In a purrfect world — such as in the musical *Cats* — felines wouldn’t be domesticated by humans. The cat-human relationship is nothing but a continuous power-struggle.

▪ If a cat and a dog were to engage in a game of chess, the cat would win, and the dog would throw up on the chess board and then eat his own vomit.

Dogs undoubtedly fit better in the role of a domesticated animal. They are dependent, absent-minded and unable to keep control of their bodily waste. Without humans, dogs would have no sense of dignity or purpose. However, once the human is taken out of the equation, cats are clearly the superior animal. Their unfaltering self-interest propels them towards higher goals, they’re capable of fully taking care of themselves and above all, they know how to play the keyboard.



Megan Hymanyk
COUNTERPOINT

During your bi-monthly check-in on Great Aunt Margo, your cries of welcome turn to those of concern when you are greeted by silence, and as you strain your ears, you hear an unfamiliar sound, not unlike that of a small set of jaws chomping food. You turn the corner and see Aunt Margo being devoured by none other than her beloved Miss Kitty. This situation, horrifyingly true for too many old ladies, is just one of a multitude of reasons why, as always, dogs are superior to cats.

Dogs exhibit a superb combination of intelligence and energy, reasserting the old saying that a dog is man’s best friend. The intelligence of dogs remains unparalleled when contrasted with any other household pet, including the deadly cat. Dogs defy laziness by taking up a role in the professional world, acting as an aid to their human companion. Dogs show immense patience by remaining professional on the job, and resist any temptation to bark at their number one foe, the cat, and hold back the urge to run for any stick, ball or chew toy. All this they sacrifice to maintain a constant watch on their human.

Dogs have another key part in society lending a helpful hand to psychologists. Schools and

counselors have only recently recognized that the lofty intelligence of dogs — and of course their friendly faces and plush fur — help children and adults alike through difficult times.

Of course, to the dogs, the highest honour is nothing other than working for their human’s government. They spend their day alongside humans searching for guns and bombs, ensuring national security in the process.

While each dog and cat is equipped with a full-fledged set of personality traits, the most important issue is how canines and kitties act in relation to their humans. Only through this analysis can they be judged.

There’s no denying it: cats are solitary creatures, known for lingering in the darkest corner of their owners’ homes, shrouded in darkness. They regard their owners not as beloved humans, but as captors forcing them to remain inside and forcing them to defecate in a cave reeking of death and feces. They tick off the days, waiting for the moment when their owners will leave the front door open so they can escape their torturous existence. They keep a watchful eye over friends and suitors of their captors, readying themselves for the moment of attack.

On the contrary, dogs revel in the love of their humans, wanting to do nothing but spend precious hours with their owners or curl up on their lap (of luxury).

For centuries, the relationship between dogs and their owners has struck envy in the heart of cat owners, and in the last century, dogs have become an integral part of security and safety.

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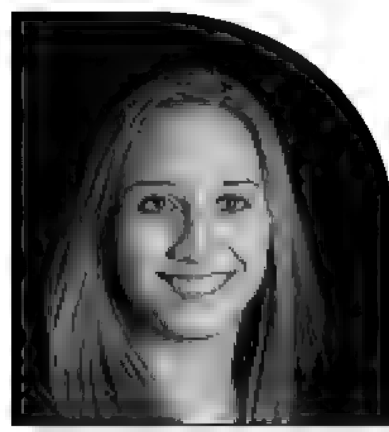


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Conservatives MPs should not be opening up the abortion debate

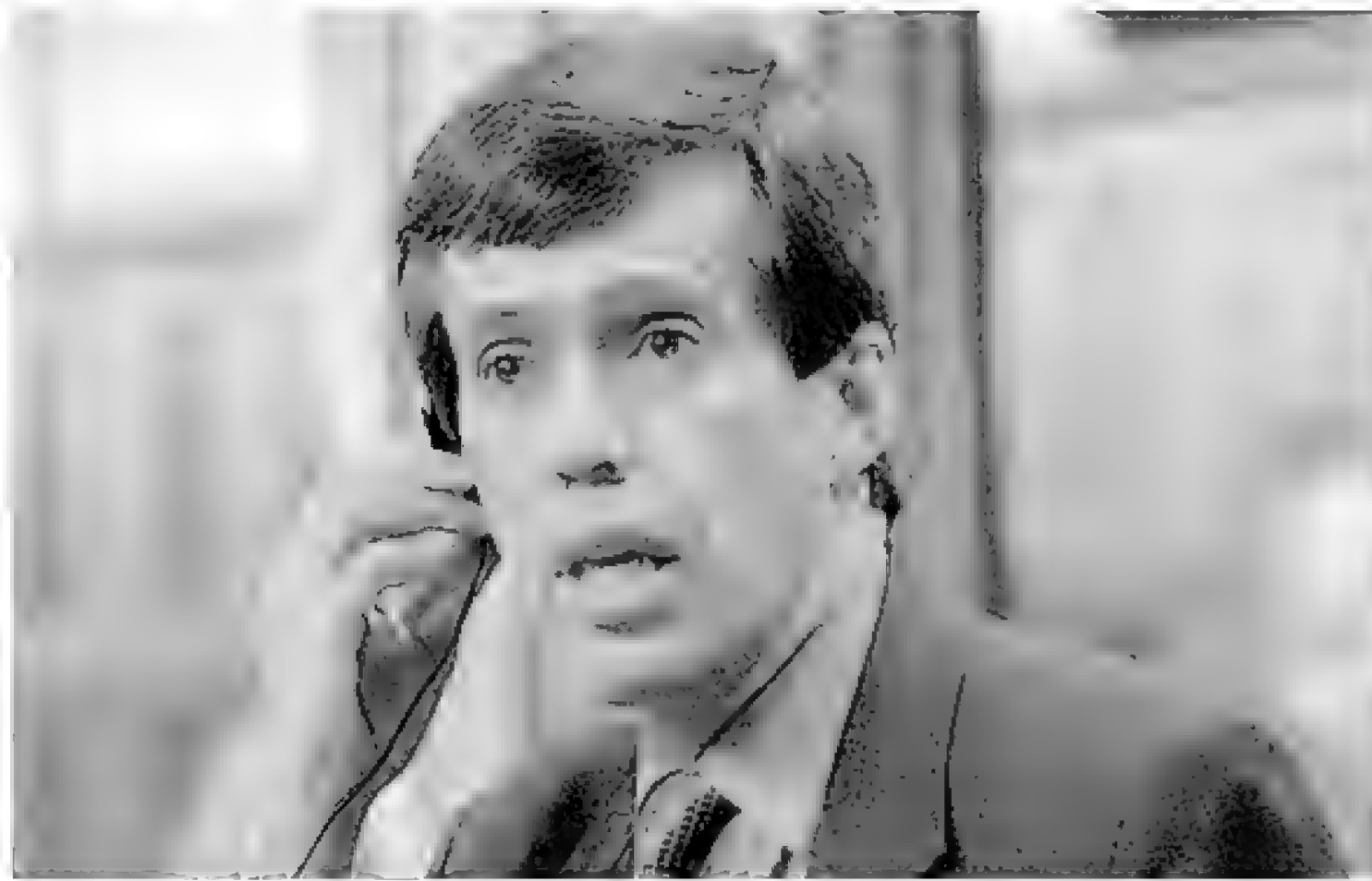


Megan Hymanyk
OPINION WRITER

Stephen Harper, a politician infamous for his actions surrounding climate change, war, mining, and arms control is now caught in the public eye thanks to the abortion skeleton creeping out of the government's closet. It's come to light that three of Harper's federal MPs attempted to coerce the RCMP into investigating abortion — in particular, abortions taking place at 20 weeks gestation or even further into a woman's pregnancy, in a manner that can only be acknowledged as preposterous.

The MPs then take this inspection one step further by choosing to interpret these abortions as potential murders that would require nothing less than a federal investigation. Harper, who's previously been chastised as a prime minister responsible for rebuking human rights, is now forced to deal with the backwash of the MPs' actions, and is forced to take a portion of the blame simply because they operate under his government. Although Harper has publicly chastised these MPs and reassured Canadians that abortion will remain a legal practice, the actions of the MPs appear to have been an attempt to re-open the abortion debate, wrongly threatening women's basic rights in the process.

A basic explanation of these types of late abortion, as opposed to the more common one occurring within the first trimester — is necessary. The reason late abortions in particular are being targeted is because of the unique nature of the operation. Instead of physically removing an embryo from the uterus within the first 12 weeks of pregnancy,



LEAVE IT ALONE Maurice Vellacott shouldn't be fighting this. SUPPLIED

later abortions come into effect after the pregnancy, when the fetus is delivered as stillborn because of complications induced by the actions of the abortion.

These MPs are claiming that this form of abortion constitutes murder because the fetus is not removed from the mothers womb, and instead survives the pregnancy, but dies when it is removed from the mother's body. What the MPs hope to do after women have undergone this operation, and after the fetus is pronounced dead, is attempt to coerce the RCMP to charge the mothers with homicide.

The deeper problem hidden under the surface of this issue is what this implies about women's bodies, and their rights in regard to them. While an abortion in the first trimester would be significantly preferable to one taking place after 20 weeks, an abortion is undoubtedly a terrible experience for anyone to endure, no matter when it is performed. For this reason, the government allows, and absolutely needs to allow, all women to continue to be pro-choice if they wish, and from there the woman herself is able to decide whether to keep or abort the fetus. By attempt-

ing to get the Mounties involved, these MPs are furthering the idea that a woman can't legally have an abortion, that a doctor cannot legally perform one and that women don't have rights over their own bodies.

These MPs have been caught red-handed, and whether Harper had any knowledge of their actions, or whether they pursued them without his consent, they are still a member of his Conservative government, and speak on his behalf. In reaction to being caught, Harper has stated that abortions are and will remain a legal operation, both for patients and doctors. Some of the MPs have reasserted their opinion on the matter after this story has been brought to light, claiming they must have been the product of a miscommunication, but most likely, these words of denial have come about because of fear of not being re-elected.

Canada needs to continue its journey of supporting equal rights for both men and women, and in order to do so, they need to take a look at the attempted actions of these MPs — Maurice Vellacott, Leon Benoit and Wladyslaw Lizon — when re-election time comes around, and keep these people away from seats of power.

Africentric curriculum doesn't teach all history



Atta Almasi
OPINION STAFF

Eighteen years after the House of Commons officially recognized the creation of Black History Month in Canada, the debate still continues among educators, students, parents and the general public about the effectiveness and relevance of the continued February celebration.

The debate, which mostly revolves around whether a specific individual month is necessary to highlight and focus on the history of persons of African and Caribbean descent in this country, is perhaps most evident in the recent creation and openings of publicly funded Africentric schools in Toronto.

These types of schools, of which there are currently two, profess to integrate "the diverse perspectives, experiences and histories of people of African descent into the provincial mandated curriculum." They may be seen by some as a reasonable attempt in terms of better promoting and exposing children to the contributions of those of African descent year-round, however there are better ways and other alternative educational initiatives to accomplishing these goals.

First off, the initiative of providing Africentric education mainly

to offset and address the growing and troubling phenomena of failing black youth in urban inner-city neighbourhoods is adopted. It doesn't come from within Canada, but south of the border, where the reality is that there are more young, black men in prison than enrolled in post-secondary education.

But the problem with adopting this educational approach from the United States is the failure of the Toronto District School Board administrators to recognize and acknowledge the relative differences between the black population in Canada and the black population in The States.

Whereas African Americans are a relatively homogenous group as the vast majority descended from slaves brought to America hundreds of years ago, black Canadians are a diverse group that, apart from long-standing established black communities in places such as Nova Scotia, are relatively recent immigrants. They arrive here from places such as Barbados and Botswana.

And unlike African Americans, black Canadians make up a much smaller portion of the wider populace of the country.

Furthermore, the aim to provide schools centred around a vague notion of African culture and history is difficult to accomplish since both are very diverse. From the Arabs living in countries such as Egypt and Sudan to the Chinese, South Asian

and Portuguese diasporas residing in countries such as Mauritius, Tanzania and Angola to the many different linguistic and cultural groups that make up the majority of sub-Saharan Africa, inferring that there is a singular "Africentric" perspective is nothing short of both ignorant and ludicrous.

As well, the demographics of the overwhelming majority of the students whose astounding dropout rate the Africentric schools were supposed to address are not necessarily of African descent, whose children tend to have similar high school graduation rates and post-secondary enrolment of other recent immigrant groups. Instead, those who need support are actually students whose parents hail from the Caribbean, in which case it would make more sense to establish a curriculum centred on their respective backgrounds, culture and traditions.

Instead of promoting Africentric schools, we should encourage the contributions of African and Caribbean Canadians to Canadian history, arts and culture, politics, business and other respective fields through a non-Africentric curriculum. We should be shifting away from the history of domination of African American history and civil rights during Black History Month. The goal of increasing "high self pride" and better integration into Canadian society can be better and more effectively achieved.

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A couple of crazy and calloused ways to call things off



Opinion
Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

Breaking up is hard to do. But if you've fallen out of love with your significant other and aren't sure how to break it off, *The Gateway* has a few suggestions on how to let them down easy.

Annie Pumphrey

Marriage is a fantastic way of ending relationships. For this reason, one of the most effective ways of breaking up with your boyfriend or girlfriend is to ask them to marry you. By asking this simple question, you will succeed in freaking out your soon-to-be ex-lover to the point where they no longer feel comfortable dating you. Conventional break-up methods often leave both sides feeling angry and hurt, whereas ill-timed marriage proposals merely end in shock and confusion. When your partner refuses to your proposal, act heartbroken, walk away, and never speak to them again. You'll likely never hear from them again.

Of course, this technique carries the risk of your partner saying yes to your proposal. In this exceptionally rare case, rudely explain that you were joking and would never actually want to marry them and then walk away.

Gina Wicentowich

If you're dumping someone, you should obviously be subtle, kind, and considerate. There are three

important things to remember: where, what and how.

Where: somewhere explicitly public. HUB Mall is an ideal location. The best spot is right beside Ho Ho's. The scent will help ease their pain.

What: the specific wording of your breakup spiel is very important. Be as honest as possible. State everything that annoys you about the other person that caused you to lose feelings. Or if you've found a new person to be infatuated with, you should mention this. Also, always mention ways they could have improved their performance in bed. They'll appreciate all that feedback.

How: this is all about tone, tone and tone. Since this will be a serious, formal moment, I advise you to find your best Morgan Freeman impersonation. No one can get mad at his stoic voice. This is the only guarantee that the person will not get upset or angry.

This is the secret, unspoken method for a successful breakup.

Cameron Lewis

We are the online generation. We tweet, Facebook, blog and Reddit every little thing that pops into our heads, so if you want an epic way to break up with that not-so-special-someone-anymore this Valentine's Day, look no further than the social network.

The internet makes everything so guilt-free. Doing anything you would feel guilty for in person becomes so much easier when you're sitting comfortably behind a computer screen. Breaking up with someone is no different. Besides, when you dump someone, you want to make a spectacle out of it,



HELL NO Proposing is a surefire way to make sure you get rid of your unwanted lover. PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: HEATHER RICHARDS

a show everyone can see. Here's how you do it: create an event on Facebook titled "we need to talk" and only invite your victim. When they RSVP, write a long status about why you're breaking up with them and tag them in it so everyone can see. Later, when they change their relationship status, make sure to like it so everyone knows you like the fact they are no longer dating you. That's how you do it. Single as a Pringle and you didn't have to deal with any of that in-person crap. Good luck, cyber-assholes.

Andrew Jeffrey

After hitting that post V-Day funk with your significant other, the best way to end the relationship is of course to make it as public as possible. After all, if you really care about

this person, you want to show that by putting real effort into making a spectacle of your breakup for the world to see.

Of course, now that you're single again, you'll want to go back to the old friends you may have neglected in order to spend time with your boyfriend or girlfriend, and the best way to win back their friendship is to involve them in breaking the news. As a bonus, they can conveniently transport you immediately from the breakup to a bar to drown your sorrows.

In terms of the actual breakup, take your girl or guy wherever you first met on what seems like a really romantic date. Start off the conversation lying to the dumpee about how much you care for them and how important this place is to you, or some shit like that. Be sappy. Then

drop the bomb that it's over.

But to make it a real spectacle, have your friends jump out from hiding places to act as a choir breaking into your favourite breakup song as you dance around them acting as their conductor. Whether it's "Fuck You" by Cee-Lo Green or anything from a Taylor Swift album, just make sure it's upbeat and catchy so the public will feel compelled to join in and sing along. Be sure to place your friends around the dumpee too so they so they can feel the full effect of your performance without running away.

There's no reason breakups always have to be a sad moment after all. Sometimes they just need to happen. So make it a joyous, celebratory occasion for you, your friends and the general public to enjoy — even if one person won't.



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GRAPPLING (SEX & SEX ALTERNATIVES)

- Ever kissed someone of the opposite sex? (1 point)
- Of the same sex? (1 point)
- More than one person at once? (2 points for every additional person)
- Were they related? (5 points)
- To you? (-10 points, gross)
- Ever kissed someone on the mouth? (2 points)
- On the butt cheek? (3 points)
- On the lower lips? (5 points)
- Ever tongue wrestled? (2 points)
- Ever kissed both members of a couple? (5 points)
- Never been kissed? (-5 points)
- Only been kissed by your mom? (-20 points)

- You masturbate. (1 point)
- How many times have you masturbated in one day? (1 point for each time past the first)
- Ever masturbated in public? (2 points for bravery)
- A public washroom? (2 points, but that's not cool, bro)
- In a library? (-2 points, I'm trying to study)
- In the glass washroom on Whyte Avenue? (5 points)
- Were you seen? (2 points)
- Did you want to be seen? (2 points)
- Ever masturbated to a picture in *The Gateway*? (5 points)
- Was it an editor? (5 points)
- Was it an SU exec? (3 points)
- Was it the guy on the front cover? (5 points, call me, I'll even wear the pants)
- Do you use lotion/lube? (1 point)
- Or are you a natural lube-machine? (3 points)
- Or do you just go dry? (2 points)



Ever had sex? (2 points)
Was it a threesome? (3 points)
An orgy? (10 points)
Were there tag teams? (20 points)
Was it the Survivor Series (4 on 4 elimination)? (10 points and the Championship belt, slightly sticky)
How's your alphabet game score? (1 point per letter)
Ever had a one-night stand? (5 points)
Or are you still a virgin? (-30 points)
Ever been someone's first time? (2 points per virgin)
Was Usher's "Climax" playing? (2 points)
Did you climax? (1 point)
Did you sing The Lonely Island's "I just had sex" right afterwards? (-1 point)

Have you given a handjob/fingering? (1 point)
Received a handjob/fingering? (1 point)
Performed oral sex? (1 point)
Received oral sex? (1 point)
Performed road head? (3 points, but drive safe next time, asshole)
Received road head? (3 points)
Done 69? (6.9 points — or just round it up to 7)
Done a 619? (7 points, booyaka booyaka!)
Did you swallow? (1 point, good for you)
Did you get mushroom stamped? (-5 points)
Ever performed anal sex? (3 points)
Received anal sex? (3 points)
Given a rim job? (3 points)
Received a rim job? (3 points)
Without a dental dam? (5 points for bravery)

Ever given a moustache ride? (5 points)
Ever taken a moustache ride? (5 points)
With Hulk Hogan? (20 points)
Did you film it with a hidden camera? (Wait six years then post it to Gawker)
Ever had someone teabag you? (5 points)
Ever teabagged? (5 points)
In a video game? (-10 points, grow up)
Have you earned your Red Wings? (6 points)
Ever fisted someone? (6 points)
Ever been fisted? (6 points)
Two fists? (10 points, and that's probably a bad idea)

Did you get your sex tips from The Wanderer's sex advice column? (-5 points)
Ever gotten sex advice from Dr. Donna? (10 points)
Did it work? (10 points)
Ever worn a luchador mask during sex? (5 points)
Ever pin your partner for a three-count to finish sex? (3 points)

Ever throw your partner out of the bed and count to 10 for a DQ to finish sex? (10 points)
Are you a furry? (-10 points) (+20 points if you're a Pokemon)
A Brony? (-50 points, dude it's for kids)
A Kony? (-100, bring the children back home!)
Is George Clooney your "eskimo brother"? (100 points for doing Stacy Keibler)

Ever done it missionary? (1 point)
Doggie style? (2 points)
Cowgirl? (1 point)
Reverse cowgirl? (2 points)
Up against a wall? (1 point)
Up against a wall upside down? (5 points, that's impressive)
Have you tried the Five Knuckle Shuffle? (10 points)
Suicide Sixty-Nine? (20 points)
The Camel Clutch? (25 points)
The Crossface Chickenwing? (5 points)
A Montreal Screwjob? (5 points)
Did you screw Bret? (-10 points, Canada will never forgive you)

Ever had sex with a classmate? (1 point)
With a professor? (4 points)
During a lecture? (15 points)
With a university official? (10 points)
Was it Indira? (50 points)
Did the Provost participate? (100 points)

Ever used a vibrator? (2 points)
A dildo? (3 points)
A cock ring? (3 points)
Engage in a little BDSM? (10 points)
Is it because you read *Fifty Shades of Grey*? (-18 points)
Do you own:
A whip? (2 points)
A flogger? (2 points)
A mini-flogger? (1 point)
Nipple clamps? (2 points per nipple clamped)
Sexy handcuffs? (2 points)
Gimp suit? (5 points)
Rope? (2 points)
A sex swing? (5 points)
Chastity Belt? (3 points female, 5 points male)
Stilts? (2 points)
All of the above? (Double your points!)
A straight-up sex dungeon? (30 points)
Do you have a fleshlight? (5 points)
Is it modelled off *My Little Pony: Friendship is Magic*? (-20 points)
Ever try sounding? (10 points, OW)
Ever snowballed? (4 points)
Alaskan Pipeline? (10 points)

Ever had sex in...
The middle of the wrestling ring? (5 points)
The SUB stairwell? (2 points)
The Great Outdoors? (2 points)
Was it Stone Cold? (5 points, watch for nipple frostbite)
On the LRT? (3 points)
On the bus? (3 points)
In Azeroth? (-10 points, lawl)
In a Strat Washroom? (20 points for bravery)
In Rutherford? (-4 points — again, we're trying to study)
"In" Alexander Rutherford? (50 points)
In Council Chambers? (5 points)
Was it *in camera*? (10 points, and don't break confidentiality!)
In Lister? (1 point)
Did you wax your buttohole with duct tape on SUB stage first? (5 points)
Did you set your crotch on fire? (5 points)
Did you make a "my sex is on fire" joke? (-5 points)
Ever have sex in RATT? (3 points)
Did it improve the service? (1 point)
Did they still serve you food afterwards? (2 points)
Did the food come before you did? (1 point)
Have you ever left dick juice on someone else's bed? (2 points)

Ever contracted...
Crabs? (1 point)
Boston Crabs? (3 points)
Chlamydia? (2 points)
Gonorrhea? (2 points)
Syphilis? (5 points)
HIV? (10 points)
HPV? (3 points, get a vaccine)
Herpes? (0 points)
Blue Waffle? (50 points, I'm so sorry)
A baby? (-20 points)

Ever paid for sex? (5 points)
Were you given a discount? (3 points, nice!)
Was it because you climaxed before they even touched you? (-10 points, eternal shame)
Did you sing The Lonely Island's "Jizz in my Pants" afterward? (10 points, that takes balls)

Did you contribute to *the Gateway's* Purity Test contest? (3 points)
Did you win? (5 points — and \$500 worth of dildos!)

Ever used a wrestling hold during sex? (5 points)
Was it a submission hold? (10 points)
Did they tap out? (1 point)

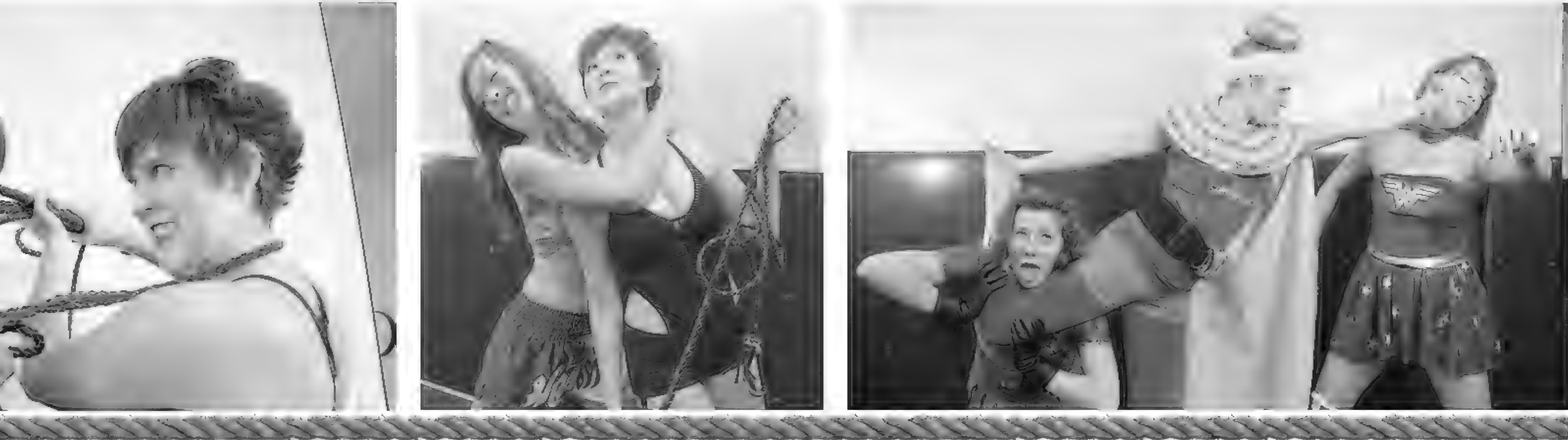
When you have sex, can you smell what The Rock is cookin'? (5 points)
Did you actually eat what The Rock cooked? (3 points)
Are your orgasms as fake as wrestling? (-5 points)

SLAMMING (ALCOHOL)

Have you ever drank alcohol? (1 point)
Gotten drunk? (2 points)
So drunk you threw up? (3 points)
More than once? (1 point for every time you puked after the first)
Threw up blood? (5 points for still being alive)
Ever puked and rallied? (5 points)
Was it at Champs? (1 point)
Did you feel like a champ afterward? (1 point)
Do you pre-drink? (1 point)
Ever drink so much you can't remember what you did? (5 points)
Have you ever blacked out before leaving for the bar? (-5 points)
Are you a Rackstar? (1 point)
A Strat Rat? (1 point)
Ever gotten drunk off Bulldogs? (3 points, soooo delicious!)
British Bulldogs? (3 points, soooo roidy!)
Have you ever done 10 shots in a row? (10 points)
Were they tequila? (5 points)
Have you ever been thrown out of a bar? (3 points)
Was it a fundraising event? (3 points)
Was it "Western Bros and Nava-hoes"? (-20 just for attending)
Does alcohol make you take your shirt off? (2 points)
Does alcohol make you tear your shirt off? (2 points, brother!)

Ever had a Prairie Fire? (5 points)
Willingly? (-5 points)
A Rocky Mountain Bear Fucker? (7 points)
Ever drank Everclear? (2 points)





Moonshine? (3 points)
Ever attempted a Centurion? (5 points)
Did you finish it? (10 points for being alive)
A Power Hour? (3 points)
Edward Fortyhands? (3 points)
Played beer pong? (1 points)
Beersbie? (2 points)
Beerio Kart? (1 points)
Sociables? (1 points)
Quarters? (1 points)
True American? (5 points)
Do you actually understand the rules? (10 points)
Ever done the Louisville Chugger? (2 points)
The Wizard Staff? (3 points)
Did you become Gandalf? (20 points)
Did you refuse to let people pass? (-20 points, you dick)

Ever bought a beer based on a Brews Brothers review? (5 points)

Ever destroyed something while drunk? (2 points)
Was it your dignity? (-1 point)
Ever enjoy a cool, refreshing Pimm's and Lemonade? (3 points, plus 1 more if freshly squeezed lemonade)
Ever gone on a bender? (2 points per day)
Ever had alcohol poisoning? (10 points)
Did you have to have your stomach pumped? (5 points)
Ever gone to class drunk? (2 points)
Did you continue to drink in class? (5 points)
Gone to a final exam drunk? (10 points)
Did you pass? (20 points, -20 points if not)

JUICING (DRUGS)

Ever smoked a cigarette? (1 point)
Smoked a cigar? (1 point)
Smoked a pipe? (1 point)
Chain-smoked? (Take your record, and 1 point per cigarette)
Have you ever done snuff? (-1 point)
Do you chew tobacco? (2 points)
Do you chew it in class and spit it into a water bottle? (-20 points, just no)
Ever used steroids? (3 points)
Other "performance-enhancing drugs?" (5 points)
Did it enhance your performance? (1 point)

Did it make you impotent? (-10 points for stupidity)

Have you ever smoked Cannabis? (1 point)
Maryjane? (1 point)
Dope? (1 point)
Wacky Tobacky? (-2 points)
Grass? (1 point)
Hippie Lettuce? (1 point)
Ganja? (1 point)
Reefer? (1 point)
Shrooms? (2 points)
MDMA? (3 points)
Special K? (4 points)
Done meth? (5 points, yikes)
Cooked meth? (6 points)
With Mr. White? (6 points, bitch)
Dropped acid? (3 points)
Tripped balls? (2 points)
Done bath salts? (5 points)
Did you turn into a zombie? (6 points)
Did you eat someone's face? (-10 points)
Did you almost become a Jill sandwich? (2 points — I hope this isn't Chris's blood!)
Have you ever done a line of coke? (4 points)
Off a toilet? (2 points, gross)
Off a hooker? (10 points)
Have you ever gummed coke (-10 points, you wuss)
Ever done Triple H? (15 points)
Did you "suck it"? (-5 points)
Ever done speedballs? (5 points)
Horse tranquilizers? (4 points)
Have you ever taken Adderall to "study?" (3 points)
Did you just end up cleaning your whole house? (-2 points)
Did it make you go crazy crazy crazy till you saw the sun? (5 points)
Is your love my drug? (-1 point)
Is love your drug? (-5 points)

PUMPING UP (FOOD & GLUTTONY)

Are you a foodie? (-50 points for calling yourself a foodie)
Did you cause the quinoa crisis? (10 points)
Have you eaten at RATT recently? (-4 points)
Did you agree that it was a RATTastrophe? (4 points)
Did you buy the \$17 steak? (-17 points)
How many days straight have you eaten Edo,

Subway, Taco Time or McDonalds? (1 point per day, to a maximum of 10, per chain)
Ever try the mythical McRib? (5 points)
Ever created a McGangbang? (5 points)
Ever try the infamous Double Down? (5 points)
Ever mix yourself up a nice glass of cakenog? (5 points)
Ever eaten a Marco's Wildcat donair? (3 points, -1 if you didn't finish)
Ever eaten a Marco's Tombstone donair then had sex immediately after (it's like having sex with a pregnant man)? (7 points)

Ever drank vomit out of a pitcher? (10 points)
A shot glass? (2 points)
Out of someone's butt hole? (20 points)
Ever baby-birded? (5 points)
Drank beer out of a vagina? (5 points)
Did it quench your thirst? (2 points)
Did she get a yeast infection? (-10 points, go see a doctor)

BOTCHING (VICES & FUCKUPS)

How late have you slept in? (1 point for each hour past 12 p.m.)
Ever slept in so late you accidentally skipped class? (1 point)
A week of class? (5 points)
A month? (10 points)
The whole semester? (20 points)
Are you a hot-ass mess? (1 point)
How about a hot ass-mess? (5 points)
What about just a plain ol' hot piece of ass? (2 points)
Are you lying? (1 point)
Did people treat you differently because of it? (-1 point, it's not hard to be pretty)

Ever plagiarized an essay? (3 points)
Was it your final honours paper? (5 points)
Have you ever cheated on a test? (3 points)
A partner? (2 points per time)
Did they find out? (-5 points)
Did they join in? (10 points, high five)
Ever broken the "half your age plus seven" rule? (7 points)
Were they seven? (-35 points, you sick fuck)
Did you ever try to get auctioned off for a date? (-1 point)
Was it postponed? (Interesting.)
Ever purchased someone at a love auction?

(5 points)
Ever looked at porn? (2 points)
Did you pay for it? (-5 points, it's called the internet)
Ever watched porn in the front row of a lecture theatre? (5 points)
With sound? (5 points)
Was it just like one of your Japanese animes? (5 points)
Did it give you a Solid Snake? (2 points, what was that noise?)
Did it involve tentacles? (1 point per tentacle observed)

Ever left your shit on top of a paper towel dispenser? (-20 points, have some decency)
Are you proud of yourself? (-5 points)

Do you have any piercings? (1 point each)
Any tattoos? (2 points each)
Is one of them a Maple Leaf? (-1 point)
Does your tattoo have a typo? (-1 point)
Does it say "Straight Edge?" (-10 points)
Is it a Chinese character that you don't understand but you think it makes you look deep? (-10 points for being a douchebag)

Ever play poker? (1 point)
Strip poker? (2 points)
Strip scrabble? (2 points)
Strip spin the bottle? (2 points)
Strip poker-scrabble-spin-the-bottle? (5 points — what? How?)
Did you cry at the end of *The Walking Dead* video game? (1 point, we've all been there.)
Are you a nice guy? (-1 point per fedora owned)
Do you finish last? (-1 point, of course you do.)
Are you in the friend zone? (1 sympathy point, but you know that's not a real thing, right?)
Do you want to hook up with a real nice guy? (Call 780-492-6661)

Ever done "Gangnam Style"? (3 points, we've all been there by now)
As a sex move? (-5 points)
Or maybe you just screamed at someone's bum? (-3 points)

Ever sung "Macho Man"? (2 points)
Are you singing and dancing to it right now? (-5 points)

Have you ever actually paid to watch WWE? (-10 points)
Do you consider it your porn? (-5 points)



BLADING (VIOLENCE)

Ever been in a fight? (2 points)
Rap battle? (2 points)
Krump war? (2 points)
Thumb war? (1 point)
Flame war? (-1 point)
A war on terror? (-1 point, you cannot declare war on an intangible concept)
Roid Rage? (5 points)
Have you ever committed a crime? (3 points)
Was it stealing? (1 point)
Public intoxication? (2 points)
Public urination? (3 points)
Indecent exposure? (1 point, but put your clothes back on)

Have you ever been arrested? (5 points)
Ever served jail time? (5 points, 10 more for each year after the first)
Have you ever carried a knife? (1 point)
Do you have street cred? (-2 points, no one says that anymore)
Do you even lift, bro? (2 points, come at me)

Have you ever shot a gun? (3 points)
Did you 3-D print that shit? (3 points)
Ever read about your own exploits in Campus Crime Beat? (10 points)
Did you have an emotional connection to that rock? (5 points)
Was it love at first sight? (3 points)
Did it “get your rocks off?” (5 points)
Are you the guys who stole the couches from SUB? (5 points)
Do you know any UAPS officers by name? (2 points per officer)
Ever shot a man in Reno? (50 points)

Just to watch him die? (50 points)
Ever pee in a pool? (1 point)
Ever poo in a pool? (5 points)
Ever haze someone? (-50 points, not cool bro)
Are you a Deke? (-50 points)
Did you join after they were suspended? (-10 points, don't you know how to read?)
Ever get caught taking a video in the women's washroom? (-20 points, wtf)
Ever wrestled a fleeing pervert to the ground? (20 points, kudos)
Did you put him into a sharpshooter, just for funzies? (50 points)

THE MAIN EVENT

(BONUS ROUND)

How many Purity Tests have you done before this one? (1 point per test, maximum of 7 — graduate already!)
Ever gotten a negative score? (-100, unless your middle name is “Danger”)
Did you cheat on this test? (Of course you did, 2 points, -1 if you didn't)
Did you have to check Urban Dictionary in the process of taking the test? (-2 points)
Ever use the Purity Test as a checklist? (4 points)
Are you doing this test in a bar? (2 points)
At work? (5 points)
In class? (3 points)
During a midterm? (5 points)
With your parents' consent? (-5 points)
Did you expect us to make a Chris Benoit joke? (-30 points, too soon)



ONE! TWO! THREE!

BABYFACE (0-99)

Congratulations, you are the ultimate hero. In an industry rife with sex, drugs, feuds and temptation, you've managed to keep your nose clean, say your prayers, take your vitamins and be a role model for all the kids out there. Your booker can rely on you to wear the championship belt secure in the knowledge you won't hock it for stripper money at the first opportunity. Though you may be a big deal with the undescended-gonad crowd, real fans are tired of your lame good-guy shtick and are just begging for the day when you finally cut loose and turn heel. Until then, expect your ass to get booed night after night.

Gatewayers in this category: Ross Vincent, Michelle Mark

HEEL (100-199)

Say hello to the bad guy. Arrogant, nasty and cruel, you know exactly what you want and you're not afraid to bend the rules to get it. Whether it's having your manager distract the ref while you wallop your opponent with a steel chair or telling the hometown crowd why their city is sub-par, you know how to raise hell at the expense of others. Sure, you're not nearly enough of a bad-ass to be the main event, but you're entertaining as hell and you're having the time of your life. Besides, without you, the Babyfaces wouldn't look so good.

Gatewayers in this category: Andrew Jeffrey, Katherine Speur, Madeline Smith, Alana Willerton, Kate Black, Alex Migdal, Katelyn Hoffart

HALL OF FAMER (200-299)

You are without a doubt one of the dirtiest players in the game. One of the greats in this business, your achievements in the ring and in the sack are a thing of legend for which your legions of fans will remember you. Chances are you have as many illegitimate children as you do championship reigns, and your freewheelin' ways will ensure you'll be working the comic convention circuit selling \$20 headshots to make your alimony payments well into your late sixties. But for now you're living your golden years in the Pontiac Silverdome, and while you may end up wrestling in the same school gym where you had grade six PE class, it's damn sure you'll be stylin' and profilin' all the way. Woooooooo!

Gatewayers in this category: Ryan Bromsgrove, Darcy Ropchan, April Hudson, Ryan Stephens, Paige Gorsak

HARDCORE LEGEND (300+)

Wow... R.I.P. Like Mickey Rourke's character in The Wrestler, or Scott Hall in real life, a lifetime of abuse both in and out of the ring have left you an unrecognizable wreck of a human being. You probably take as many pills to keep your heart beating as you do to get high. Still, your motto is You Only Live Once, and you choose to spend that one life snorting speedballs of cocaine and diamonds off a hookers chest in the middle of Madison Square Garden. You're headed for hell, and you plan to have a hell of a good time getting there. You may want to take it easy, though, or else you may lose your last casket match ever.

Gatewayers in the category: Vikram Seth, Jennifer Polack

**SPEICAL THANKS TO THE STAFF OF THE VAN VLIET FITNESS & LIFESTYLE
CENTRE AND THE PATRONS WE TOLD TO MOVE**

Arts & Culture

Arts & Culture Editor

Alana Willerton

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Email

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Volunteer

A&C meetings Wednesdays at 4 p.m. in 3-04 SUB.

social intercourse

COMPILED BY **Paige Gorsak**

Kolektsiya

Presented by the Vohon Ukrainian Dance Ensemble
Friday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m.
Jubilee Auditorium (11455 87 Ave.)
Tickets \$49.64 at ticketmaster.com

There's no better way to start off your Reading Week than with a dance party — more specifically, a Ukrainian one. The Vohon Ukrainian Dance Ensemble is celebrating a quarter century of flying splits and lively foot stamping with *Kolektsiya*, a showcase of various regional dances they've performed during their 25-year run. Though the Jubilee Auditorium is more of a sitting space, the folkloric and fantastical tale woven throughout the show will have you yearning to move your feet with them in no time.

Frequency

Presented by Boodang
Shaw Conference Centre (9797 101 Ave.)
Saturday, Feb. 16 and Sunday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m.
Two-day admission tickets \$1336.10 at boodang.com

If Ukrainian dance isn't your thing, come dance and twirl to the year's best electronic music at Frequency, Boodang's annual all-night dance party. Friday night's rave is titled *Dusk*, a party lasting till 2:30 a.m., while Saturday's *Dawn* party has the venue open until 6 a.m. Your ticket also gets you into the pre-party on Friday at Set Nightclub, so not a moment of your weekend is wasted. You may not be getting much rest and relaxation this weekend, but you're pretty much guaranteed a good time at Frequency.

The Blue Planet in Concert

Presented by the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra
Saturday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, Feb. 17 at 2 p.m.
Winspear Centre (4 Sir Winston Churchill Square)
\$29 - \$79 at winspearcentre.com

The magic of *The Blue Planet* ocean documentary lies in the filmed mysteries of the great big blue, combined with George Fenton's award-winning score. When the documentary came out in 2001, it was the first of its kind as it explored and plunged to new depths of the ocean. This week at the Winspear Centre, the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra is reviving the magic of the original show in an orchestral and choral masterpiece. As they play and sing the uplifting Emmy Award-winning melodies, the production will show video sequences from the original film to create the ultimate viewing experience.

Lindi Ortega

With Dustin Bentall and the Smokes and Erica Viegas
Sunday, Feb. 17 at 8 p.m.
Avenue Theatre (9030 118 Ave.)
\$12 at yeglive.ca

It seems like every aspiring country crooner in Canada packs their bags and trots off to Nashville in hopes of making it big. But Lindi Ortega has managed to set herself apart from the pack with her sweet soprano and her dark and desperate subject matter, regularly returning to Canada for concerts and to show off her roots. While country music isn't everyone's cup of tea, Ortega's uplifting melodies, bluesy guitar style and striking live performances could pull at the heartstrings of a diehard metal fan.



Sweet trio of Studio Ghibli films represent the best in animation

FILM REVIEW

Studio Ghibli: *My Neighbor Totoro*, *Porco Rosso* and *Whisper of the Heart*

WHERE > Garneau Theatre (8712 109 St.)

HOW MUCH \$8 student admission

Ryan Stephens, Corey Guiltner and Michelina Pagliuso

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF

With 17 feature films under their belt, a recently-released video game and millions of fans all over the world, Studio Ghibli is an animation heavyweight, and arguably one of the greatest animation studios of all time — second only to Walt Disney Studios. Its films are viewed as cinematic masterpieces, and have developed a large cult following over the years. Go to any convention that has an anime component and you'll see one of Ghibli's many characters present.

For those unfamiliar with the films of Studio Ghibli, now is the perfect time to see them on the big screen: Metro Cinema will be showing the following three films over the next two weeks. If you're a fan of hand-drawn animations, they're not to be missed.

My Neighbor Totoro

Friday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 17 at 1:30 p.m. and Monday, Feb. 18 at 2 p.m.

This side of the Pacific, Hayao Miyazaki's *My Neighbor Totoro* isn't often touted as one of the most cherished family films of all time. But for Japanese children, the film and its title character's menacingly large yet warm and furry presence holds an emotional resonance on par with Mickey Mouse in North America.

In this film, four-year-old Mei comes across the rabbit-like Totoro and other forest spirits when she moves into her new home in rural post-war Japan. Along with her sister Satsuki and father Tatsuo, the trio settles into an old and apparently haunted house to be closer to

their hospitalized mother. Long abandoned aside from stealthy soot sprites that scuttle into the darkness when faced with light, the house and the surrounding woodland conjure a new sense of curiosity in the girls. Essentially alone, Satsuki and Mei explore their surroundings before Mei falls down a rabbit hole and on to the sleeping Totoro's belly.

The movie follows Miyazaki's familiar focus on the often-difficult passage from childhood to adulthood, particularly coming to terms with mortality. Taking a cue from *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Miyazaki creates a fantasy world in which the girls can escape the grief and anxiety of their mother's slow recovery. Eventually, this world and its fascinating characters become less of an escape and more of an encouraging presence in the girls' lives, as the spirits gently push them back to reality and towards a greater sense of maturity.

Although it likely remains largely unknown to North American children, *My Neighbor Totoro* makes use of beautiful animation to create universally endearing fantasy creatures. Throwing light on difficult issues that all kids face, the film should be essential viewing for children everywhere.

Porco Rosso

Saturday, Feb. 16 at 4:15 p.m., Monday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. and Wednesday, Feb. 20 at 7 p.m.

Like many Studio Ghibli films, *Porco Rosso* gives the audience a premise with slightly unusual details, and doesn't give much information as to why things are the way they are. As a result, Ghibli unapologetically forces you to suspend your disbelief and accept everything you see.

In *Porco Rosso*, we meet the titular hero, a bounty hunter, Italian WWI flying ace and humanoid pig. Beloved by all who are good, hated by those who are bad and cursed to be a pig, Porco Rosso instantly becomes the target of Donald Curtis, an American stunt plane captain out for glory.

Michael Keaton plays Porco in the English language version of the film, and his presence adds a level of gruffness that suits the character. Cary Elwes, who plays the American Curtis, is in top form, virtually unrecognizable in his voice role. The supporting cast is a who's who of terrific voice actors you wouldn't know by name, but will recognize simply by watching.

The film itself deals with themes of misogyny, honour and love, though at its core, *Porco Rosso*

is a film about overcoming misconceptions as a pig searches for happiness. Although it's an animated tale of a pig pilot, there are plenty of adult themes in the movie and it moves much more slowly than its North American counterparts, focusing more on the story than it does on trying to be funny. *Porco Rosso* is a film that prioritizes awareness of its audience over pandering to a broader one, delivering a well-made, light-hearted tale that is distinctly Ghibli.

Whisper of the Heart

Saturday, Feb. 23 at 7:30 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 24 at 2:15 p.m. and Monday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m.

Whisper of the Heart, released in 1995 by Studio Ghibli, tells the story of Shizuku Tsukishima, a teenage girl grappling with the emotionally volatile territory of adolescence.

Struggling to motivate herself in school and ambivalent about her future, Shizuku escapes from everyday pressures by immersing herself in books, only to discover that everything she reads has already been taken out of the library by someone named Seiji Amasawa. Imagining he's a kindred spirit, she endeavours to find out who he is.

On her way to the library one day, Shizuku meets a mysterious cat on the train who piques her curiosity. In a sequence that feels a bit like Alice's journey down the rabbit hole, Shizuku follows the cat to an antique shop in an affluent neighbourhood she's never seen before. Enchanted by her first visit, the shop and the people she meets there serve as a catalyst for Shizuku's journey of self-discovery.

Based on Aoi Hiiragi's manga of the same name and directed by Yoshifumi Kondo, the film departs from the themes of several other Studio Ghibli releases. While never reaching the emotional depth of the Studio's earlier films, such as Isao Takahata's *Grave of the Fireflies* or the imaginative whimsy of Hayao Miyazaki's *My Neighbor Totoro*, the film's ability to convey the yearning and confusion of adolescence carries a special charm.

Whisper of the Heart has several touching moments and presents a story of teen angst that many viewers can relate to, but the film doesn't quite come together to reach the level of emotional resonance to which it aspires. Despite these factors, the film still offers a heart-warming story about how we find our path in life, and the unexpected encounters that inspire us to follow our dreams.

Indulge your valentine at one of the best local restaurants



Arts & Culture
Staff
GROUP COMMENTARY

Valentine's Day is fast approaching, and with it comes the need to show off to your significant other and prove how much you love them. But this year, instead of giving your loved one the usual box of chocolates, try impressing them with your knowledge of local food by taking them to one of these Gateway certified restaurants.

Andrea Ross

Bulgogi House (8813 92 St.)



KEVIN SCHENK

Tucked away in the Bonnie Doon neighbourhood is the humble Bulgogi House, one of Edmonton's best-kept Korean secrets. After opening its doors in 1973 as Edmonton's first Korean restaurant, Bulgogi House survives on a loyal fanbase that returns for the casual atmosphere and large portions of fantastic traditional Korean cooking. While the decor is admittedly mediocre, the parking difficult and the service un-engaging, what makes Bulgogi House a true local hidden gem is the wide array of generously-sized dishes for fair prices.

With a massive menu of beef, pork, chicken, seafood and vegetarian options, there's a flavourful choice for absolutely everyone. It's nearly impossible to decide on a single dish, so it's best to go with friends and share multiple entrees, or opt for the combination dinner deals for groups of four or more. All meals are served with kimchi, bean sprouts and white sticky rice, and the kimchi is so good you could make a meal out of these three small dishes alone. Memorable entrees include the restaurant's namesake dish bul-go-gi, which is marinated beef with vegetables, and the sweet and spicy hae-mool-bok-kum, a mix of seafood with vegetables.

They don't have much for dessert, but you won't have room anyway after indulging in Edmonton's finest Korean food.

Paige Gorsak

The Blue Plate Diner (10145 104 St.)



GRIFF CORNWALL

Entering through the glass panelled doors, the Blue Plate Diner greets you with good vibes, delicious smells and a friendly staff. The colourful ceilings, exposed brick and

checkerboard columns are responsible for the overall charm of the downtown food favourite, and with local artwork adorning the walls, the venue is an eclectic mix of quirky and kitschy.

Over the years, the Blue Plate Diner has become a hotspot with the upswing of the trendy 104 St. promenade and the weekly farmers' market, and there's quality fare for everyone including vegans, vegetarians, gluten-free guests and the average carnivore.

Personal favourites include the savoury Mac-N-Cheese adorned with fresh tomatoes and a side of incredible sweet potatoes fries, as well as their infamous Veggie Burger, which is an intriguing combo of beets, seeds and other veggies topped with cheese and a delicious herb mayonnaise.

Though the prices tip the scale slightly for a student budget, the restaurant sources many of its products locally — much of their produce comes from the farmers' market outside their door and meat from local butchers. With the comfortable buzz of satisfied conversation and the enjoyment of a delicious meal, the adorable Blue Plate Diner is the ideal place for your Valentine's Day Night out, whether it's a first date or a romantic evening for long-term chums.

Adela Czyzewska

Tzin Wine and Tapas (10115 104 St.)



GRIFF CORNWALL

Foodies and wine connoisseurs, come hither. The place you've been looking for is a secret in the heart of downtown Edmonton known as Tzin Wine and Tapas.

The restaurant is extremely small with an intimate ambience, so reservations are a must. Furnished with rich and cozy decor, dim lighting and candles, it's the perfect place to lure your Valentine for a more romantic dinner.

On the menu is an extensive wine list and several small dishes that are perfect for sharing with your significant other. Recommended is the roasted squash salad with grilled red onion, red peppers, fennel spring mix, goat feta and lemon vinaigrette, which is a fresh and citrusy dish. Next is the wild mushroom and spinach tart with Gruyere cheese and merlot-truffle vinaigrette, embodying a buttery goodness that melts in your mouth. It's also absolutely necessary to try the seafood paella, which was recently listed on *Avenue Magazine's* "25 Best Things to Eat 2012."

Lastly, you can't forget about dessert: the petite, warm gingerbread cake with a rum caramel sauce accompanied with brown butter ice cream is a sublime creation that will change your life.

The price point is in the mid-range for the most part, but the food is well worth the cost. The staff is personable and accommodating, and the food is prepared with care and passion, making Tzin Wine and Tapas a worthwhile dining experience that's sure to impress.

Christine Grant

Cha Island (10332 81 Ave.)



KEVIN SCHENK

Cha Island is the perfect spot for any couple, whether it's your first date or a fifth anniversary. Located just off Whyte Ave., this delicious hole-in-the-wall is known for its colourful, tropical-themed decor and the fun reggae music Jake, the owner, is fond of playing.

Cha Island specializes in tea, waffles, paninis and a wide selection of micro-brew beers. For dinner, options like the pineapple-habanero chicken panini or the turka-mole panini are great, and Jake is happy to add things like hot sauce or horseradish at no extra cost. When it comes to your drink, a dark beer like Black Berry Port is a great fruity option, though the serving size is larger than your average beer. If you're looking for something a little lighter, the Ugly Sweater is a good one, as the milk stout is extremely smooth and has a comforting feel to it.

In addition to the food and drink, Cha Island has plenty of comfy chairs and tables to accommodate you. The restaurant keeps a variety of board games around too, so you and your date can get something delicious and enjoy a round of Scrabble. Cha Island is a great place if you're looking for a more casual, relaxed atmosphere for you and your date.

Megan Hymanyk

Piccolino Bistro (9112 142 St.)



MANIKARNIKA KANJILAL

If you still embrace Hallmark's holiday creation by dining with a loved one on the 14th, consider stopping in at Piccolino Bistro this week. Nestled in the heart of the Crestwood community, this quaint Italian restaurant is home to a small, intimate setting and food that looks and tastes as if it were created in Italy itself.

Most entrees are capped at \$20, and each serving is basically large enough for two meals. With an assortment of appetizers, pizzas and pastas, one of their more popular dishes remains the Penne Di Mare. This dish is heartily portioned, and flies to the table steaming hot and served with tomato sauce, a vigorous helping of shrimp and mussels and topped with pepper and asiago cheese. Complete the meal with a bottle of Little Straw Tapestry Pinot Grigio, which complements the pasta sauce for an orgasmic firing of taste buds.

Piccolino may be a bit more of a traditional food spot, but the amazing food and comfortable environment will have you singing its praises.

fashion streeters

COMPILED AND PHOTOGRAPHED BY Alana Willerton



Tony Lee
SCIENCE I

GATEWAY: Describe what you're wearing.
TONY: My pants and shirt are from Tommy Hilfiger, and my jacket and cardigan are from The Gap. My tie is from RW&Co. and my headphones are Marley.
GATEWAY: What's your favourite thing you have on?
TONY: Probably my jacket because it's so retro. I was talking to my dad one time and he said it was like a jacket that he wore when he went to school. It's practical and warm too.



Check out thegatewayonline.ca/fashionstreeters for more photos.



Beautiful Creatures borrows an angst-filled page from *Twilight*

FILM REVIEW

Beautiful Creatures

WRITTEN BY > Richard LaGravenese
DIRECTED BY > Richard LaGravenese
STARRING > Alden Ehrenreich, Alice Englert, Viola Davis and Emmy Rossum

WHEN > In theatres Thursday, Feb. 14

Andrea Ross

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @ROSSANDREA

Following in the footsteps of mega blockbusters such as *Twilight*, *Beautiful Creatures* attempts to captivate the lovesick teenage crowd with the usual mix of romance, mystery and magic. With an idealistic and clichéd take on young love, the film makes a conscious effort to deal with adult topics in a way that feels safe. But unfortunately for anyone over the age of 14, *Beautiful Creatures* is yet another tiring and predictable tale of doomed first love.

Based on the first novel in the *Caster Chronicles*, a series of young adult novels by Kami Garcia and Margaret Stohl, *Beautiful Creatures* is set in Gatlin, a fictional, ultra-conservative small town in South Carolina. When sophomore student Ethan (Alden Ehrenreich) arrives at school one day and sees Lena (Alice Englert), a mysterious new girl in class, he feels an instant connection to her and

attempts to pursue her. However, he soon discovers that Lena is a “Caster,” a girl with supernatural powers much like a witch, and upon her 16th birthday she’ll be claimed for either the Light or Dark side of the world of magic. Against the will of their families, Ethan and Lena embark on a race against time to find a way to salvage her future and their relationship.

In typical young-adult fictitious fashion, the film uses every exhausted cinematic cliché to highlight Ethan and Lena’s supposed true love. In one scene, the teens drive to the edge of town and Ethan begs Lena to leave Gatlin with him in an effort to leave behind their supernatural — or rather, superficial — troubles and start their lives fresh elsewhere. Ending in a passionate kiss, the scene is meant to highlight their close relationship and their destiny as lovers, but only portrays the lovebirds as oblivious to the conflicts with their families, within their burgeoning relationship and in their own town. The teens cling to the idealistic notion that their love is the answer to all their problems, when in fact their relationship is what’s destroying everything around them.

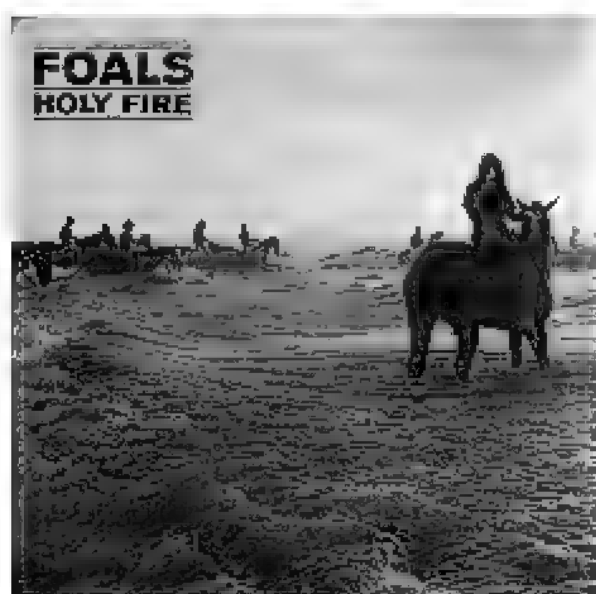
Ethan’s yearning for freedom from small town life is only natural for a teen, but his immaturity is apparent in the way he falls so hard for a girl he doesn’t even really know. Initially portrayed as a college hopeful, his character falls flat as he places his role as Lena’s protector over everything else, including his promising future. For the young female

audience, Ethan’s aspirational faults may be redeemed by his dashing good looks — Ehrenreich is essentially the Robert Pattinson of the film with his dark hair, gorgeous smile and scruffy face — while Lena is the Kristen Stewart of *Beautiful Creatures*: quiet, boring and lacking expression in all aspects. Her relationship with Ethan is only drawn together thanks to the true magic of CGI effects and clever marketing.

The love-conquers-all theme may succeed in enamouring a teenage audience, but the unoriginal, predictable storyline of doomed and unrealistic young love makes for a tedious two hours for everyone else. The film aims for universal appeal by attempting to place a dark, mature spin on a classic romance, but ruins all credibility with shallow characters and a simple plot. There are questions that are never answered, themes that never resurface and subplots that seem to be forgotten, leaving the viewer confused and frustrated. Then again, these tend to be the emotions that stem from teenage relationships in general.

With the vapid brunette female lead, supernatural themes, familial tensions and doomed love, this film is essentially a *Twilight* remake with witches instead of vampires. Much like *Twilight*, *Beautiful Creatures* is sure to be popular with a younger crowd, but those who wish to leave memories of doomed teenage romance in the past where they belong should steer clear.

ALBUM REVIEW



Foals Holy Fire

Transgressive Records
foals.co.uk

Ryan Stephens

ARTS & CULTURE STAFF ■ @STEPHENSJRYAN

Foals is far removed from the propulsive plucky guitar work and enigmatic throwaway lyrics of their early dance punk days. With their third album *Holy Fire*, the band’s style shifts from the dancefloor skyward to the cooling atmospheres of an arena rock band. While some fans may lament the departure of Foals’ spastic past, they’re making massive strides towards a groovier and more explicitly introspective sound that should win the band new fans.

As if in an effort to give advance

notice of their transformation, the album opener “Prelude” begins with Foals’ familiar minimalism before flaring up into an unexpectedly grunge-inspired jam session. Moments later, in the album’s second track “Inhaler,” the band affirms their new direction yet again, as vocalist Yannis Philippakis squeals over gradually pulsing guitars as they degrade into aggressively distorted breakdowns that would rattle massive crowds to the core.

Lyrical, Foals proves themselves

so eager to show honest truths in their music that much of the narrative arc of the album is obvious based on the track titles alone — they spell out the tone and subject matter as directly as chapters in a novel. The band no longer tries to hide oblique lyrics behind catchy rhythms, instead delivering heartfelt odes and apologies to friends, lovers and families. In “Bad Habit,” Philippakis softly sings, “I’m a bad habit, one you cannot shake / Oh Mary mercy, would you pray for me?” Such guilt-ridden admission is suddenly not so foreign to the once emotionally distant band.

Holy Fire is a slow burner, and it might take a few listens to fully absorb the weight of its emotions. While much of the strength is in the lyrics, listeners will also be taken away by the beats and grooves that ignite this album into a magnificent blaze.

An engaging discussion on leadership

Tom Axworthy
President and CEO
of the Walter and
Duncan Gordon Foundation



Come share the leadership journey of the head of one of Canada’s largest foundations dedicated to protecting Canada’s water and empowering the North. Mr Axworthy is an Order of Canada recipient with a distinguished career in government, academia and philanthropy.

This event is free and open to all. Refreshments will be served.

Date: February 25, 2013 Time: 4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Location: Telus Centre TEL-150, 111 Street and 87 Avenue NW
University of Alberta North Campus
RSVP and information: www.innovativeleaders.ualberta.ca



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Dead Space 3 delivers new horrors to old friends

VIDEO GAME REVIEW

Dead Space 3

DEVELOPED BY > Visceral Games

PUBLISHED BY > Electronic Arts

AVAILABLE ON > Microsoft Windows, PlayStation 3 and Xbox 360

Ryan Bromsgrove
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF • @RYAWESOME

Dead Space 3 won't blow your limbs off, but its gore-filled campaign and unobtrusively integrated co-op gameplay will satisfy your action shooter horror-sci-fi cravings until someone manages to make a scary game again.

The first entry in the series, set on an infested spacecraft orbiting an eerie alien planet, was genuinely frightening. But in line with the trend in any scary game series, the imposing atmosphere dissipated as the franchise progressed, and there's pretty much nothing left as far as pants-soiling moments go.

While this is a shame, Dead Space 3 itself is still solidly entertaining. Once again, you play as space engineer Isaac Clarke. This time, you find yourself dragged into a suicide mission on the iceball-snowstorm planet Tau Volantis — and wouldn't you know it, the former inhabitants have been transformed into spiky space zombies: Necromorphs.

Accompanying the monstrous series staples are both more mundanely reanimated humans and for the first time, firearm-wielding Unitologists — cultists centred around the mysterious "marker" artifacts that have been at the centre of the



series' outbreaks. Led by a charming fellow who looks a lot like a short-haired Bono, these folks introduce new combat situations for those tired of the same old limb-slicing efforts that have previously dominated the series.

After a brief introduction on the Earth's moon, the story takes Isaac and a rag-tag band of suicide mission enthusiasts through an orbital spacecraft graveyard and the abandoned remains of military research stations on Tau Volantis, finally ending up below the planet's surface and opening a whole new chapter in the Dead Space universe.

As far as the setting goes, the bulk of the game occurs around the planet's surface, and the ceaseless snowstorm quickly gets boring. You can't see far enough to get many spectacular views of the geography, such as the gigantic crater on the first game's Aegis VII, and without

that sense of scale, it just doesn't feel alien enough — you might as well just be in Antarctica. The Lunar Colony area, present for only one chapter, feels vastly underutilized, and while the orbital junkyard is fun while it lasts, nothing stands out as much as previous game's locations, such as The Sprawl in Dead Space 2, built around the mined-out husk of Saturn's moon, Titan, or the bridge of the Ishimura.

For the first time, Isaac's background as an engineer is useful for more than just putting batteries in receptacles. While firearms are no longer exclusively weaponized maintenance equipment, the bench system has been upgraded to allow the player to fully customize their guns. Always wanted a rapid-fire plasma gun with a flamethrower attachment? That's possible. Or what about a gun that fires electricity and grenades? It's up to you. There's a

large combination of weapons for the player to create and upgrade — the unfortunate downside is that you can now only carry two rather than four, which means if you swap out one gun for something you just made and find out it sucks, it leaves you with only one effective weapon until you get back to a bench.

While the complexity of the weapon system has been increased to great effect, the ammo system has been curiously streamlined. Rather than pick up different ammo for different guns, you now get one-size-fits-all general-purpose ammunition. Ammunition management is no longer important, and while you don't have to worry about using up all your good stuff, the result is that even on the harder difficulties, you rarely run out of ammunition. This removes an entire aspect of challenge.

But one thing this game gets markedly right is the co-op system. Dead

Space 3 delivers a smart solution that should please both those who want to play alone and those who want to blast through with company.

The host player is completely free to take Isaac through the adventure entirely solo. At any time, they can allow for a friend or a random player to drop into the game and take on the role of soldier John Carver. Story-wise, there are slight differences, with certain missions becoming available with Carver's presence and certain puzzles playing out differently with two people. But if either there's no one around to play Carver or if the player wants to go at it alone, the character is simply somewhere else for that part of the game. There's no annoying AI character using up all your items or getting in the way of your shots — the character is just gone, radioing in occasionally for conversations. This way, you can either play through just as you did in the first two games or you can team up with another human.

A little weak in the story and setting departments, but fairly strong everywhere else, Dead Space 3 is an involving tour through previously unexplored aspects of the series. The gun creation system, though marred by DLC micro transaction prompts as obnoxious as you'd expect from Electronic Arts — 'don't bother with the resource collecting, buy your guns with real money instead' — is a great way to reward creativity and a little patience. And some of the unlockable game modes offer seasoned players a series of challenges above and beyond the usual "enemies hurt you more, you hurt them less" difficulty differences. You may miss the scares, but there's plenty of engaging material to make up for the loss.

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WRITTEN BY **Cameron Lewis**



Words With Friends

COST > Free or \$1.99

PLATFORM > iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch

Do you have a passion for spelling? A burning desire to rearrange random letters with a specific point-value system into words? Do you like Scrabble? Well, I've got three words for you: Words With Friends.

Now, it's true that Words With Friends is not quite the same as Scrabble, as it has a variety of features that differentiates it from the popular board game: it's played on an iPhone, you don't need a game board and you don't have to be in the same room as anyone while playing it.

The premise of the game is for you to use the tiles you're given to create words on a

board to get points according to the word's value. The objective is to score higher than your opponent. Words With Friends creates a one-on-one battle of the words between two friends that can be played at any time of the day and anywhere around the globe.

Words With Friends' gameplay offers limitless possibilities: you can make any word in the English language, and even if you lose, you can play the same person again and again until you win. And if you want to take 10 days to take your turn, you can do that too. Can scrabble do that? No, because it's not Words With Friends.

There's a free version of the game and a paid version that costs \$1.99. The only perk of the paid version is that you don't have to deal with any advertisements, so it's not really worth it. This is the best game available in the app store — and it's free — so if you haven't downloaded it by now, I don't know what you're waiting for.

Dat App is a weekly feature that highlights the best apps out there.

brewsbrothers

WRITTEN BY **Adrian Lohola-Chomink and Ben Bourie**

Chocolate Stout

Brewery: Rogue

Available at: Sherbrooke Liquor Store (11819 St. Albert Trail) and some Liquor Depots

Chocolate and roses are usually the traditional Valentine's Day gift, but if you truly love someone, give them something much better this year: beer. Modern brewing technology has given us a variety of chocolate-flavoured beers to fit the bill, so I checked out Rogue's Chocolate Stout to see if it's good enough for your sweetheart.

Chocolate Stout pours a dark brown colour with two fingers of foamy brown head which shows good retention. Aroma-wise, there's a big cocoa smell with a little hint of vanilla bean and roasted nuttiness in the background. Overall, the beer is dominated by chocolate in both appearance and smell.

The theme continues in the flavour with a smooth chocolate taste that's more reminiscent of milk chocolate than the dark, bitter flavours in many other chocolate beers. Chocolate Stout's smooth, cocoa character is backed by a malty sweetness that makes it easy to drink, but it also has the thick substantial mouth feel you'd expect from a heavy chocolate beer.

For anyone looking to try a chocolate beer or get someone else into darker beers, Rogue's Chocolate Stout is a great place to start. It's not the most exciting beer for experienced beer geeks, but it's definitely a solid brew. I give it 7/10, easily making it better than any traditional Valentine's Day gift.



Guinness Extra Stout

Brewery: Guinness

Available at: Most liquor stores

Guinness is known around the world as "the beer that drinks like a meal," and it's the beer that immediately comes to mind for many at the mention of the word stout. But what most people don't know is that there are different forms of Guinness — original, extra stout, foreign extra stouts — which vary greatly depending on which country they come from.

Guinness's Extra Stout pours a dark brown colour with a tan one-and-a-half finger head. The nose is pretty light all around, and there's a slight maltiness with roasted notes to go along with a faint mineral quality that resonates through the beer. There aren't many chocolate or coffee scents in the beer at all, which is disappointing but not off-putting.

There's a sharp mineral taste up front that's similar to the nose, followed by lightly sweet malt and a dry finish with some roasted astringency in the end. The mouth feel is completely different from what most people imagine when they think of Guinness. The carbonation is sharp and lightens the feel significantly when compared to nitrogenized Guinness.

Overall, this version of Guinness has many of the same qualities of the original, though it's not without its disappointments. The fact that they didn't nitrogenize the Extra Stout to provide the creamy, smooth feel synonymous with Guinness world-wide is definitely a let-down, and the reason why this beer only earns a 7.5/10.



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U of A Athletics Upcoming Schedule



All times in Mountain Standard Time
All games viewable on canadawest.tv

The U of A's Golden Bear volleyball and hockey teams finished in first place in their conferences, receiving a bye through this weekend's first round of playoffs

Pandas Hockey CanWest Quarterfinal Series



Friday, Feb. 15
vs. Saskatchewan
7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 16
vs. Saskatchewan
6 p.m.

Potential tiebreaker:
Sunday, Feb. 17
vs. Saskatchewan
2 p.m.

Pandas Volleyball CanWest Quarterfinal Series



Friday, Feb. 15
vs. Manitoba
7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 16
vs. Manitoba
7 p.m.

Potential tiebreaker:
Sunday, Feb. 17
vs. Manitoba
3 p.m.

Golden Bears Basketball



Friday, Feb. 15
@ Saskatchewan
6 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 16
@ Saskatchewan
6 p.m.

Pandas Basketball



Friday, Feb. 15
@ Saskatchewan
7 p.m.

Saturday, Feb. 16
@ Saskatchewan
5 p.m.

Golden Bears and Pandas Wrestling

Canada West Championship
Friday, Feb. 15 at 12 p.m.
@ University of Alberta

Golden Bears and Pandas Curling

CIS/CCA Western Canadian University
Curling Championships
Friday, Feb. 15 at 12 p.m.
@ Saville Centre, Edmonton

Pandas renew rivalry with Saskatchewan

HOCKEY PREVIEW

Pandas vs. Huskies

Friday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 16 at 6 p.m. If a third game is needed: Sunday, Feb. 17 at 2 p.m.
Clare Drake Arena, Edmonton

Brendan Curley

SPORTS STAFF • @B_CURLEY

For the third time in as many seasons, the University of Alberta Pandas hockey team will face off against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies in Canada West playoff action this weekend.

In both previous postseasons the Pandas have swept their way into the conference championships, making the rivalry with Saskatchewan stronger than ever heading into this weekend's quarterfinal series.

"We've had quite a history playing Saskatchewan the last couple of years. The rivalry is very strong because we have met them in the playoffs so many times," Pandas fifth-year forward Sarah Hillworth explained.

The opportunity to play at home could be the difference in this weekend's action, as the Pandas have won seven of their last eight games at home against the Huskies. But this past season, both Alberta and Saskatchewan were better teams on the road than at home. Pandas fourth-year forward Katie Stewart expressed confidence that the Pandas' mediocre home record would not be an issue come playoff time.

"The team is not thinking about what our home record was this season. We don't really have a choice anymore; we need to take care of business at home this weekend. It's time to put the regular season behind us," she said.

The Pandas head into the playoffs in a bit of a funk, having only won once in the final six games of the regular season. While such a slide



FILE PHOTO: HARRY DL

has undoubtedly weighed on the team, Pandas forward Jayden Skoye explained they've remained positive and tried to channel such adversity towards improving.

"The last few weeks of the season were tough — we faced a lot of good teams down the stretch," Skoye said. "In the last weekend series we lost both games in overtime but played well, so it wasn't necessarily a negative for us. We are going to take it as a learning experience about what we need to do in the playoffs."

While the Pandas head into this weekend's quarterfinals as favourites, the Huskies boast a potent offence looking to throw everything they've got at Alberta's goaltending tandem of Michala Jeffries and Lindsey Post. Offensively, the two teams match up fairly evenly: the Pandas only scored two more goals than the Huskies this season.

"We know (the Huskies) are a good team. They have one or two lines that can really hurt you if you

let them get the chance," Stewart said. "We need to play a really good defensive game to shut them down. If we play our game, we know we can win a championship."

In terms of preparation leading up to the playoffs, it's been business as usual for the Pandas, as head coach Howie Draper is sticking to the team's standard practice routine. However, a new mantra has emerged as the team edges closer to the elimination stage of the season: stay calm.

"One of the biggest moments of my career was sitting in the dressing room before the national championship game in 2010. When Howie Draper walked into the dressing room there was a calmness on the team," Hilworth said.

"I remember him commenting on it. We had that sense of focus and calmness because we knew what needed to happen. That confidence stems from the leadership group at that time. Watching this year, it is evident that our fifth and

fourth-years are very strong leaders in our program."

A loss this weekend would mark the end of the line for four U of A players who are currently in their final year of eligibility. There will be no lack of emotion in this opening round series, as players on both sides may very well be playing their last CIS hockey games.

"It's exciting to be in the playoffs, but it's also sad that it's my final year," fifth-year Pandas forward Monika Moskalski explained. "I'm going to give it my all and leave everything on the ice."

Meanwhile, the rest of Moskalski's teammates will be looking to chip in and help send their seniors off on a high note.

"You can feel the focus and determination in our fifth-year players. They have taught the rest of the team so much," Skoye explained. "Everyone wants to win for them. We owe it to them. Hopefully we can send them out on top."

Last chance at nationals for senior Pandas volleyball players

VOLLEYBALL PREVIEW

Pandas vs. Bisons

Friday, Feb. 15 and Saturday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. If a third game is needed: Sunday, Feb. 17 at 3 p.m.
Saville Centre, Edmonton

Atta Almasi

SPORTS STAFF

When Pandas head coach Laurie Eisler made the trip to the bustling Toronto suburb of Mississauga five years ago to recruit Lorne Park Secondary School's Jaki Ellis, she admits she was a bit skeptical. She wondered whether the then 18-year-old's intangibles, like her love of the game and her work ethic, were the real deal.

"Those are some of the things that you don't necessarily know for sure if it's real on that recruiting visit," the veteran coach said of her pursuit of Ellis, who on Saturday night broke the Canada West records for

career kills and aces against Trinity Western.

"(Ellis) really wanted to play at the highest level she could play, and so she was very motivated to come out west and play because she knew that the level of volleyball was high. I just saw a really high, multi-faceted athlete that could play (and) was so well-rounded. She could set, but she was a great attacker as well — a great athlete and great mind."

"She's very bright ... I've been just so happy with what she's brought to the table."

Ellis's performance on Saturday night cemented her place among Pandas greats such as Jenny Cartmell, Larissa Cundy and Tiffany Dodds as one of the best U of A student-athletes to come through Eisler's program. But she attributes most of her success so far to her teammates and coaches.

"I think it's pretty awesome to go out with my last few games here and set some records as I go," an ecstatic Ellis said after Saturday night's achievements, for which

she received applause from the fans in attendance each time she broke a CanWest record.

"But I think it's a team effort all around, and I think counting on setters and the middles to kind of get those seams (is important). It's a team sport, and I think our team does a great job in helping me out with that stuff."

Ellis also confirmed Eisler's assessment of what attracted her to the Pandas volleyball program.

"The program kind of speaks for itself. They've been doing well for a long time and I think that kind of drove me to come out here."

While Saturday night was a big game for Ellis, she wasn't the only member of the Pandas volleyball team receiving accolades for her career at the U of A. Fellow fifth-year players Lia Stang, Alyssa Jones and Krista Zubick also received recognition prior to the game's first serve.

"I don't know if you can really capture it in words. They are the essence of the Pandas volleyball program," Eisler said about her senior players.

"They'll leave (a) mark on the team ... because they've impacted all of us. They've impacted all of the staff; they've impacted the athletes that are returning next year. We'll miss them desperately, but they're ready to move on to the next stage."

But before the fifth-year players hang up their jerseys, their teammates and coaches will be counting on Ellis, Stang, Jones and Zubick to lead the Pandas in the quest for a second consecutive CanWest championship and a bid for the CIS national championships in Sherbrooke, Quebec in March.

Concerning the team's first-round playoff matchup against the visiting University of Manitoba Bisons this weekend, Eisler repeated her steady mantra that if the Pandas aren't ready now, they never will be.

"Absolutely, we're ready for that challenge," she said. "Manitoba's a great team and they're going to present all sorts of challenges to us, but we're ready for it. The pressure's definitely mounting."



ELAINE YIP

Bears seniors hope for a return to national championship glory

VOLLEYBALL PROFILE

Alana Willerton

ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR • @ALANAWILLERTON

You never forget your first — national championship, that is.

For fifth-year Bears volleyball libero Erik Mattson and middle Tristan Aubry, the memory of the team's last national championship win in 2008–09 is still fresh in their minds five years later.

As the only two first-year players on the team that year, the victory was an explosive end to their first season playing CIS volleyball, and it's a proud night that the players remember fondly.

"We still talk about it," Aubry said. "Nationals were here, and so the old main gym was absolutely crammed to the hilt. I don't know if I've ever seen that many people in one place at one time before. On the night of the national final, they put out towels and so there was a packed gym full of people waving these white towels around and it was just absolutely whiteout in the gym. It was absolutely deafening in there."

Mattson, who happened to be on the court as a serving sub when they scored the winning point, remembers the chaos that ensued.

"It was madness, it was unreal," he said. "I typically wouldn't have been on the floor for the end of the match, but being on the floor and just hearing the main gym erupt was a feeling that I'll definitely never forget. Just having everyone rush the court — the team, everyone on the bench, the coaches, the staff."

"I actually ended up at the bottom of a dog pile," Aubry added. "There was like 10 people on top of me."

It's this feeling that the Bears will try to recapture in the coming

weeks as they prepare to host the Canada West Final Four and work towards nationals again. The team is currently first in CIS with a 20–2 regular season finish, setting a Canada West record for most wins in a single season.

"We still talk about how the leadership group we had on that team really set a standard for us... We've been trying to instill the same thing in (this year's rookies)."

TRISTAN AUBRY
SENIOR BEARS VOLLEYBALL PLAYER

But even with the team's successful season, the real question is whether they can duplicate the most important win of all. In 2008–09, the Bears were an elite team of athletes whose starting and second squad lineup were often touted as the two best teams in the country at the time.

Aubry explains that some of the team's best rallies and battles weren't even actual matches against other teams, but rather against each other. That level of competition in practice is similar in today's team, though there is a key difference: with fewer college transfers and older players coming in, the number of first-year players joining the squad has been growing in recent years.

On the road to nationals, this year's rookies now find themselves in the same position as Mattson and Aubry five years ago. Reminiscing on their own first year with the team, the two players have strived to pass on the standards and

traditions they had then to the current rookies.

"(It) was definitely an overwhelming feeling being a little 17-year-old trying to fill the shoes of what our coach sets out for our program to be," Mattson remembered.

"Being a first-year, on one side, it's a little bit overwhelming," Aubry admitted.

"For me especially, I came in and wasn't really physically prepared for that year. I was a lot smaller than a lot of the guys and technically just wasn't up to the standard that a national championship team would be at. But in the other way, we still talk about how the leadership group we had on that team really set a standard for us, and we still look up to those guys and their leadership abilities and how they conducted themselves on and off the court ... We've been trying to instill the same thing in (this year's rookies)."

Now playing their final games as Golden Bears, Mattson and Aubry are down to their last chance to relive those feelings of glory and pride from their first year on the team.

But if their latest season has been any indication of what's to come, the two players seem to be well on track to bookending their time as Bears with another national championship title.

"It would be the best possible way to wrap up our careers here," Mattson says.

"(With) our last few years not doing as well as we'd hoped, we kind of have that hunger to get back to the national final and to experience that feeling that we had in our first year, because that's definitely something I've been wanting since 08–09."

"I think being able to win a national championship in our fifth year would put a nice cap on a five-year career."

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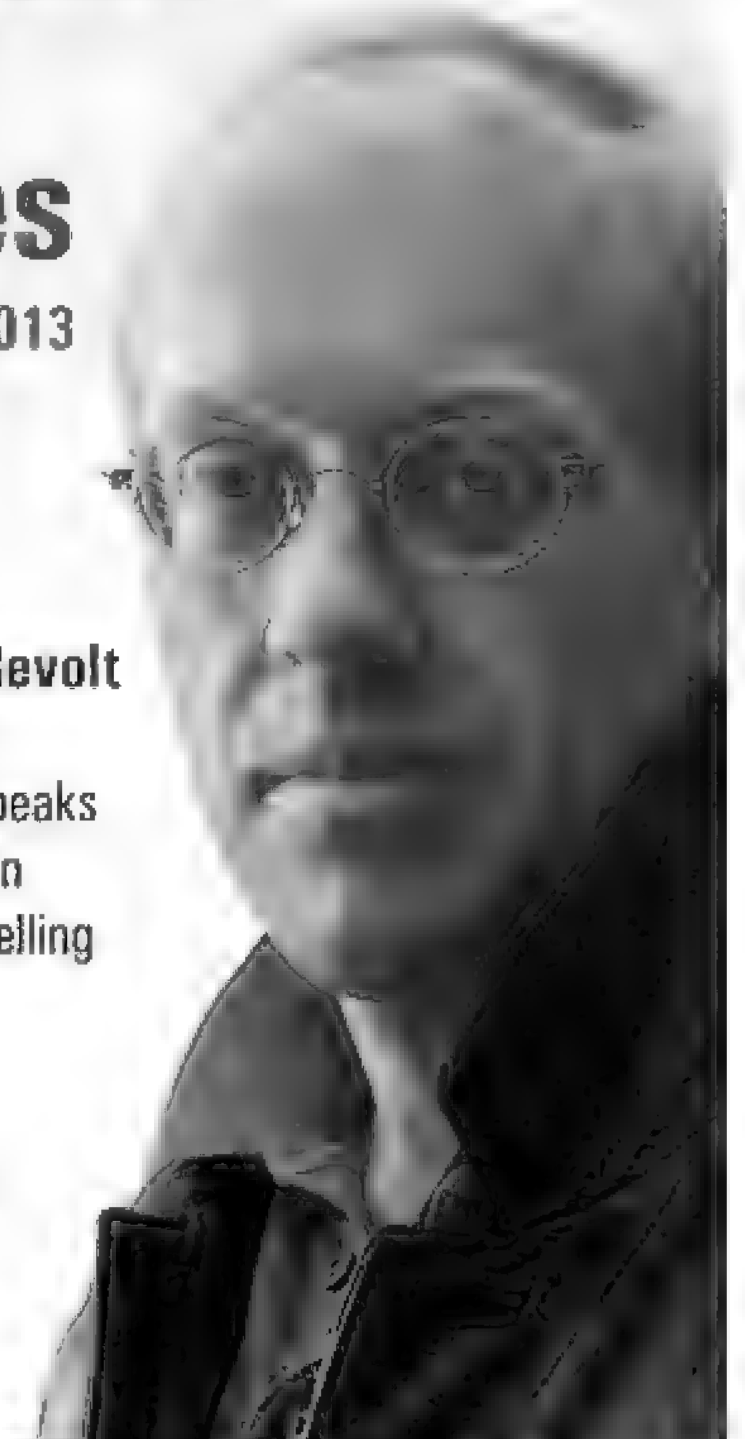
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Bears battle Saskatchewan for first place in division

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Bears @ Huskies

Feb. 15 at 5 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m.

Physical Activity Complex, Saskatoon

Andrew Jeffrey

SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

A surprising sweep at the hands of the University of Winnipeg last weekend hasn't done the Golden Bears basketball team any favours as they head into their last weekend of the season.

The Bears gave up too many points in the middle quarters of both games against Winnipeg and

were unable to stage a comeback for much-needed victories to help them in the race for first place in the Canada West conference's Prairie Division. They'll now close out their season at the University of Saskatchewan this weekend against a Huskies team that's tied with the Bears for first in their division with respective 14-6 records.

But the U of S presents a bit of an unknown entity for the Bears due to their high player turnover since last season.

"Based on the style of play that they've played over the last couple of years that I've played them, they've always been kind of rough and tough, beating you up inside with the bigger bodies," fourth-year Bears forward Todd

Bergen-Henengouwen said.

"But I know this year they lost a lot of their big bodies, so I don't know if that's still a style of play that they go to ... They're just kind of an all-around sturdy team, very respectable program, they've done great things over the past couple of years as well as us. We're ready for a little bit of a dogfight."

A more physical contest may not be what's best for a Bears team that has been reeling from injuries almost the entire season. Currently, they're trying to recover from an injury that knocked fourth-year guard Jordan Baker out of competition. As defending CIS national championship runner-ups, the injuries add even more pressure to the Bears' players to account for Baker's loss.

"We've been in this situation before, I've been playing on this team for four years now and I've experienced everything from not being on the ropes of qualifying for playoffs or not going to nationals," Bears forward Sahr Saffa said. "We're not feeling a lot of pressure, we're just in a position where we feel we have to prepare as best we can for the upcoming weekends."

The entire team has had to step up in the absence of injured players all year. With playoffs just around the corner now, the Bears are more concerned with hitting their peak performance of play, no matter who their opponent in the CanWest quarterfinals may be.

"Honestly, I haven't paid any attention to who we will play in playoffs,

it's moreso where we're going to finish in playoffs," Bergen-Henengouwen said. "We're not looking at it in any way in terms of teams that we'll be playing in playoffs at all, it's moreso where we want to finish. And we do want to finish in those top one or two so we can host a playoff here in Edmonton."

But before any speculation can happen over who the Bears will face in playoffs or how they'll perform, the team will have to get past the Huskies in their bid for first place in the division.

"Everything's on the line — everything from first place to not making playoffs or even going to nationals," Saffa said. "It seems like a defining moment of our season will be how well we perform in Saskatchewan."

sports shorts

COMPILED BY **Andrew Jeffrey**

U of A Pond Hockey Tournament

This past weekend, the University of Alberta hosted a three-on-three pond hockey tournament for the second straight year. Twenty-two teams of U of A students, staff and alumni competed from Feb. 8 to 10 despite problems caused by warm weather.

At the end of the tournament, the three tiers of playoffs were won by 4th Line for Life, Dekes of Hazard and The Big Richards, respectively. The number of teams was fewer than the 28 who competed in 2012, but this was largely attributed to the tournament's overlap with Dodgefest and the bitterly

cold weather during signup.

The tournament was first organized three years ago when there was a demand on campus for more recreational hockey.

"CBC's Hockey Day in Canada was really taking hold and we decided that we could celebrate the game by hosting the University of Alberta Pond Hockey Tournament on the same weekend and potentially get some media coverage that way," Recreation Services Program Coordinator Brian Gratrix said.

The tournament has even been sponsored by the Edmonton Oilers in the past, but due to the lockout it was sponsored by the Western Hockey League's Edmonton Oil Kings this time around. The tournament has also received media attention from the CBC in the past.

"The title sponsors are able to

provide an early bird draw for a team of five to view a home game from the media catwalk with the NHL officials, scouts and the players who are usually not dressed for that game," Gratrix said. "This year's winners are planning on going in March to an Oil Kings game."

Highlights of the tournament can be seen on Youtube, posted by the Recs Alberta account.

CIS Top 10 Rankings

As their regular seasons ended, the Bears volleyball team finished first in the country while Bears hockey finished second. Going into the CanWest championships, the Bears wrestling team are ranked first while the Pandas were ranked second. Meanwhile, Pandas volleyball ended their season ranked ninth in CIS.



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Bears are golden pick of CanWest conference playoffs

PLAYOFF PREVIEW

**Atta Almasi, Brendan Curley,
Cameron Lewis**

SPORTS STAFF

With Canada West playoffs beginning this weekend, *The Gateway's* staff took a shot at breaking down each team and predicting how they'll perform in the post-season.

1) University of Alberta Golden Bears 2012-13 Record: 23-4-1 CIS Top 10 Ranking: 2nd

Overview: Long after the silence had fallen upon the Clare Drake Arena in the wake of the University of Saskatchewan's overtime series-clinching goal that ended the Bears' national championship hopes last March, the U of A made a surprise hiring in the off-season. It was announced that Bears' alumni and former NHL player, Ian Herbers — then the head coach of the American Hockey League's Milwaukee Admirals — would be taking the reins from Stan Marple to lead the team into its historic 100th season.

Following a momentary dip at the beginning of the season that saw the team lose three games in a row, the Bears returned to form, and are now entering the semi-final

cool in intensely physical games, giving teams unnecessary power play opportunities. Luckily, coach Herbers has been able to keep the boys in line thus far in these situations, so lack of discipline shouldn't be a huge issue.

2) University of Saskatchewan Huskies 2012-13 Record: 19-8-1 CIS Top 10 Ranking: 6th

Overview: The University of Saskatchewan Huskies will get a bye to the semi-finals of the Canada West playoffs as the conference's second seed and an automatic berth in the CIS national championships as the host school. The Huskies started the season strong, with an 8-1 record, which was good for top spot in CanWest for the first half of the year. After their hot start, the Huskies struggled with consistency and dropped to third place behind Alberta and Manitoba. The Huskies and the Manitoba Bisons battled neck and neck for most of the season for the second seed in CanWest. They eventually overtook the Bisons, earning second place with a 19-8-1 record.

Key Players: The Huskies boast the top scorer in the conference, Kyle Bortis, who scored 10 goals and picked up 26 assists, one point ahead of Golden Bear forward Jordan Hickmott. Unlike the Bears, the Huskies rolled one goalie throughout the majority of the season. Ryan Holfeld appeared in 27 out of 28 games for the Huskies, putting up respectable numbers. There's no doubt he'll be the guy the team rides for their playoff run.

Strengths: Scoring. The Huskies had no problem putting the puck in the net this season, scoring 100 goals, third behind only the Bears and Bisons. Five players on the Huskies finished the season with 20 or more points, meaning the team has good scoring options and solid depth — which is critical for a playoff run. There's no doubt this team will have no problems generating offense.

Weaknesses: In contrast to their offence, the Huskies' defence this season was mediocre at best. The team allowed 82 goals this season — the third-worst out of the CanWest's playoff teams. Holfeld faced a league-high 759 shots — although he did play the most out of any goalie this season by far. The Huskies also didn't have a single defenceman score more than eight points, so don't expect any secondary offence from the D-corps.

3) University of Manitoba Bisons 2012-13 Record: 17-7-4 CIS Top 10 Ranking: 7th

Overview: A season removed from being crowned the Canada West regular season champions, the Manitoba Bisons took a small step back this year finishing in third place behind Alberta and Saskatchewan. Despite the Bisons' impressive record, the longest winning streak the team posted all year was only three games, thanks in large part to a schedule that evenly spread out games against the high-flying Bears and Huskies. This last weekend of the season was particularly disappointing for the Bisons, who saw second place and a first round bye slip through their fingers after a loss in their final game of the season against Regina. The Bisons look to avenge their surprise early exit last season, when after entering playoffs as the team to beat, they were eliminated in the semi-finals by Calgary.

Key Players: Fourth-year forward

Blair Macaulay has been a dynamic piece of the Bisons' top line all season. His 35-point season is good enough to tie him with Bears forward Jordan Hickmott for second in the conference scoring race. Macaulay is also not the lone Bison atop the CanWest scoring charts, as forwards Ian Duval and Tyler Dittmer both finished in the top six in scoring with 32 and 28 points respectively.

Strengths: The Bisons feature one of the top offences in CIS, averaging 3.75 goals on over 36 shots per game. Even more impressive is that this offence has not come at the price of solid defending, as the Bisons' shutdown numbers are also strong. What's even more impressive is that the team's dynamic offence has not come at the price of solid defending. The team's 2.41 goals against average this season represents the fifth best mark in the nation.

Weaknesses: One of the Bisons' biggest weaknesses this campaign was their inability to stay out of the penalty box. The team's 506 penalty minutes represents the second highest total by a CanWest playoff team, second only to the Dinos. Despite Manitoba boasting an 84.8 penalty kill percentage they are now playing in a win-or-go home situation. The Bisons' familiarity with the penalty box could give their opposition an edge.

4) University of Calgary Dinos 2012-13 Record: 17-11-0 CIS Top 10 Ranking: 10th

Overview: The Dinos put together a solid season, entering the playoffs as the fourth seed with a 17-11 record. They will face UBC in the first round at home, a team they had a 3-1 record against this season. The Dinos hovered around the middle of the pack all season, winning some games here and there, but never putting together any kind of winning streak that would allow them to challenge for a top spot in the conference. The Dinos would manage to beat top teams like the Golden Bears one weekend, and then lose to bottom feeders like Mount Royal the next weekend, ultimately resulting in their fourth place finish. The Dinos won't see any home games after the first round — if they manage to advance — which might turn out to be advantageous, as they had a better record on the road than they did at home.

Key Players: Since the Dinos aren't much of an offensive threat, they'll have to rely on goaltending to carry them through the playoffs. Both Dino netminders Jacob DeSerres and Dustin Butler finished in the top five in CanWest in goals against average, so whichever one of the two is chosen to start will need to be sharp, as a three-game playoff series can go either way quite easily. Walker Wintoneak led the team in scoring in the regular season with 26 points and will be looked upon by the team to lead the way offensively.

Strengths: The Dinos boast a two-headed goalie monster. They have two guys they can rely on any given

night to stop pucks, which is a rare blessing not many teams have. The Dinos may not have had any guys at the top of the conference scoring race, but they did have eight players chip in with 15 points or more, so even if their top players are shut down, they should still be able to generate some offence.

Weaknesses: The Dinos don't really have any glaring weaknesses. Their offence is solid, defence is passable and their goaltending is strong. The only real weakness of this team is coming out of games with victories. Despite putting up some pretty good stats, the Dinos were unpredictable and inconsistent in the regular season, which could end up haunting them in the playoffs. All in all, this is a solid team.

5) UBC Thunderbirds 2012-13 Record: 14-11-3 CIS Top 10 Ranking: N/A

Overview: After finishing in fifth place last season, the Thunderbirds were able to improve their record by three points this year. While that translated into another fifth place finish, there is much optimism surrounding this young UBC team, which features a wealth of impressive rookies and sophomores. That optimism translated into a hot start which saw the team post a record of 9-5-2 prior to the Christmas break. However, the T-birds cooled off after that, posting a

5-5-2 record and ending the season on a three game slide in which they were outscored 12-3.

Key Players: First-year Thunderbirds forward Brad Hoban has established himself as a force for years to come as the right winger is enjoying an excellent rookie season. Hoban finished the season tied for first in CanWest rookie scoring, contributing an impressive 11 goals and 13 assists in 28 games this season. The Thunderbirds also feature first-year blueliner Neil Manning, whose 18 points was good enough for top spot in the rookie scoring race and sixth overall amongst defensemen in the conference.

Strengths: The Thunderbirds have one of the streakiest offences in Canada West. All season long the Thunderbirds have flipped back and forth between putting up high-scoring winning streaks and low-scoring losing streaks. While this isn't necessarily ideal, if the T-birds offence can click early, this team will be poised to score a lot of goals.

Weaknesses: The Thunderbirds are one of the younger teams in Canada West, and will have to rely heavily on rookies who are unproven in the playoffs. Beyond their struggle for offensive consistency, the T-birds' defence has

also been hot and cold this season, but it's been handled well by the UBC's goaltending duo of Steven Stanford and Jordan White.

6) University of Regina Cougars 2012-13 Record: 13-12-3 CIS Top 10 Ranking: N/A

Overview: Coming off a season in which the team failed to make the playoffs, the University of Regina Cougars drew enough positive results from this year's campaign to ensure they'll join their provincial counterparts, the University of Saskatchewan, in the playoffs. However, although the Cougars made the playoffs with an above .500 record, coming away with points from 16 out of the team's 28 regular season contests, it must be noted that the majority of the team's 13 wins came against the Lethbridge Pronghorns and Mount Royal Cougars, both teams that didn't make this year's playoffs. However, the Cougars also recently split a series against their first round opponents, the University of Manitoba.

Key Players: Goaltender Lucas Gore has been impressive, finishing third in the CanWest in save percentage. Forwards Ward Szucki — who is tied for fifth among all conference rookies in goals scored — Troy Hunter and Tyler Henry lead the Cougars attack up front.

Strengths: The team is lead by outstanding goaltending from Gore who splits the netminding duties with Andrew Hayes. In fact, it's usually the team's offence, not its defence, that prevents the Cougars from being more successful. More often than not, it's the team's forwards who are unable to capitalize regardless of still reasonably being in the game, thanks to the Cougars' defence and goaltending.

Weaknesses: Road warriors, the University of Regina are not. The Cougars have only recorded one road win against a CanWest playoff team this year and that was back in November against UBC. So rolling on the road, into Winnipeg, against a tough opponent like the Manitoba Bisons, might just be asking a little too much of the Cougars.

Predictions:

The staff were unanimous in their predictions that the Golden Bears would fulfill their roles as favourites to win the Canada West championship.

In the first round of playoffs, the Regina Cougars are faced with the difficult challenge of playing the Manitoba Bisons, who finished the CanWest regular season in first last year. With their record barely finishing on the upside of .500, the Cougars will likely face an early exit.

Meanwhile, UBC's three-game losing streak heading into playoffs will likely end with Calgary knocking them out of the quarter-finals.

This would set up a battle of Alberta in the semi-finals between Calgary and the U of A and between Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

The two favourites of the U of A and U of S are bound to still meet in the championship game, with the U of A taking the championship game.

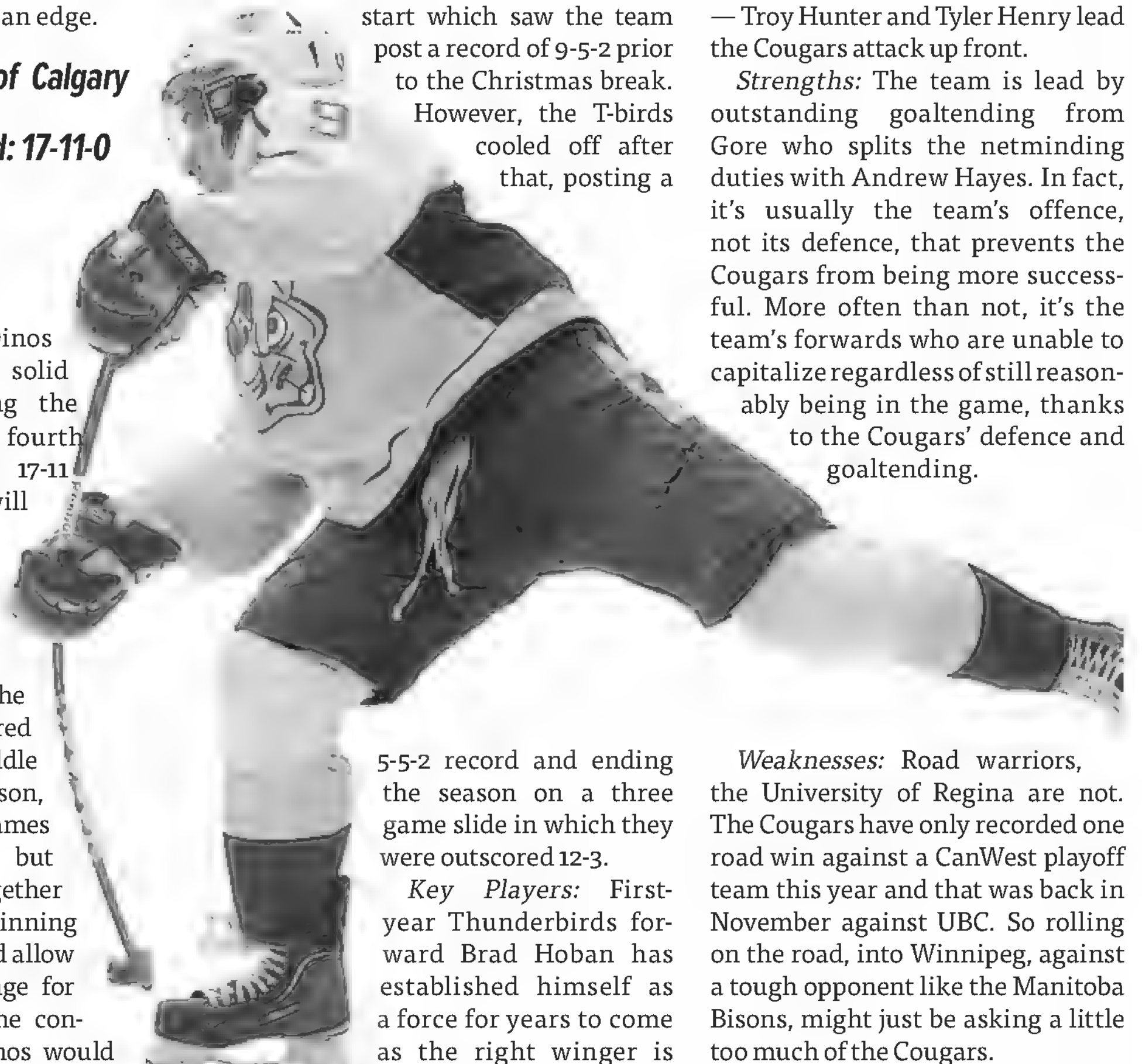


round of the playoffs ranked first in the CanWest standings, having won 20 of their last 22 games.

Key Players: U of A goaltenders Kurtis Mucha and Real Cyr have backstopped the team throughout the season, placing in the top three in CanWest in goals against average. Up front, the team is led by forward Jordan Hickmott, second in the conference in points, as well as Johnny Lazo, Levko Koper, Sean Ringrose and Torrie Dyck. Dyck, who transferred to the U of A from Augustana, is a strong candidate for rookie of the year. Meanwhile, Jessie Craige led all defencemen in the CanWest in points while Colin Joe leads all CanWest players in the plus-minus.

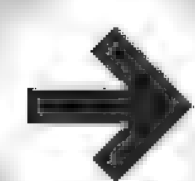
Strengths: The Bears had no players graduate last year, meaning this is a veteran-laden team built on experience, despite newcomers such as Torrie Dyck, who came to the team with an illustrious career behind him at the Alberta College level. Gifted with both forwards and defencemen capable of putting the puck in the net and a knack for drawing and converting on powerplays, this is a squad that will make teams pay for any mistakes made against them.

Weaknesses: Not many, though the Bears can be known to lose their



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U of A wrestling looks to continue impressive roll

As the top-ranked women and second-ranked men in CIS, the Bears and Pandas look to both win the CanWest championship in same year

WRESTLING PREVIEW

Canada West wrestling championships

Friday, Feb. 15 at 12 p.m.
Pavilion, Edmonton

Andrew Jeffrey
SPORTS EDITOR • @ANDREW_JEFFREY

Continuing their impressive season, the U of A wrestling team will enter the Canada West wrestling championships this weekend as the top-ranked Canada West team in CIS on both the men's and women's side of the competition.

The Bears and Pandas wrestling teams have already won a number of events this season — most recently coming off first-place finishes at the Golden Bear Open hosted by the U of A in early January. With a team that's almost identical to last season's squad, experience is a huge asset for the U of A entering this weekend's conference championships.

"It's almost an identical team except for one athlete ... The big change is that we have a lot more confidence," U of A wrestling head coach Owen Dawkins said.

"Experience is a huge factor. You know what to expect, there's no surprises ... The other teams are very good as well, but with us keeping our team together, there's a sense of hunger because we lost

this conference championship by one point last year, so the kids have had a year to think about that."

Alberta's biggest competition at the CanWest championships will come from the University of Regina, who have won the past two men's CanWest championships, including last year's narrow defeat of the Golden Bears. Meanwhile, Regina's women's team, as well as Saskatchewan and Calgary, will pose the biggest threats for the Pandas.

"(The University of Regina) has just as many wrestlers and just as many well-developed wrestlers as our team," first-year Pandas wrestler Jamie Herrington said.

"Every time we've gone to a tournament that's involved both teams, the points have been very close."

On the women's side of the competition, the Pandas are looking for a repeat after their first ever conference championship last year. This, combined with the Bears' position as favourites to win this tournament for the first time since 1985, makes Dawkins hopeful that this year could make the Bears and Pandas the top teams in the CanWest.

"We know where we want to be, it's just a matter of getting there and following the team plan," Dawkins said.

"It's a team effort. Our guys have won all of our CanWest tournaments (this year) except for one, and that tournament, we only brought four guys. Our girls have won every



FILE PHOTO: YIFENG LIU

one of our CanWest tournaments (this year), and that was the same thing last year. We've been a very strong team over the last two years — it's just now I think the confidence level of the athletes is up because they're a little older, and with age comes experience."

Dawkins is confident in his team's ability at this point in the season

as he watches his wrestlers peak at this time of the year. And while Herrington has an injury that will prevent her from competing for CanWest gold, from her perspective as a veteran wrestler for years before coming to the U of A, she's confident in the team she's seen this season.

"They've come a long way from

the beginning," she said.

"A bunch of our first-year wrestling athletes have developed their skills and team bonding and being able to adapt to what it's like to be on the mat a lot quicker than I've seen in the 11 years I've been a part of the sport.

"As far as CanWest goes, they'll do exceptionally well."

Pandas end season battling for playoff spot on the road in Saskatchewan



FILE PHOTO: CHAO ZHANG

BASKETBALL PREVIEW

Pandas @ Huskies

Friday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 16 at 5 p.m.
Physical Activity Complex, Saskatoon

Cameron Lewis
SPORTS STAFF • @COOOM

After clinching a playoff spot last weekend with back-to-back wins over Winnipeg, the hoop Pandas are looking to roll into the playoffs on a winning note as they square off against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies for their final games of the season.

The Pandas won both of their games last weekend by five points, backed by a strong performance from Anneka Bakker, who led the team with 19 points in the first game and 12 points in the second game.

"It's always nice to see kids play their best basketball towards the end of their careers," Pandas head coach Scott Edwards said of his fifth-year players, who will play

their final regular season games as Pandas this weekend. "(Katie) Arbutnot and (Saskia) VanGinhoven have really stepped it up — they've been huge for us (these) last few weeks."

This will be the first meeting of the season between the Huskies and Pandas, and the Pandas will arrive in Saskatchewan looking to build on their four-game winning streak. However, the Huskies enter the series with a two-game winning streak of their own.

"We've known about this series all season and the girls are prepared for it," Edwards said. "We knew that our season could come down to the last few weekends and that we had to play well."

Although the Pandas clinched a playoff spot last weekend in Winnipeg, this upcoming road trip still has major playoff implications. Saskatchewan (13-7) sits one place ahead of the Pandas (12-10) in the conference's Prairie Division. If the Pandas win both games, they'll overtake the Huskies for third in the division, meaning they'll play the second-place team from

CanWest's Pacific Division in the crossover-style playoffs that begin on Feb. 22.

"Our goal is to make nationals. It's been a goal for our girls all year," Edwards said. "Unfortunately, we don't have a home series, but we think we can be a tough out for anyone in the playoffs."

Depending on the results of this weekend, the Pandas will either see UBC or the University of Fraser Valley in the first round of the playoffs.

Both BC school are tied right now for first in the Pacific Division, with 16-4 records. The Pandas have played both teams once, losing both games on the road handily. Edwards claims the team has no preference about who they play in the first round of the playoffs, as all four teams are within two wins of each other.

But the Pandas will need to win both of their games this weekend against the Huskies to pass Saskatchewan for third. Even with the wins, they'll face a difficult challenge in traveling on the road for their quarterfinal playoff series.



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Feb 15 - 17 Green & Gold Invitational

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PANDAS HOCKEY

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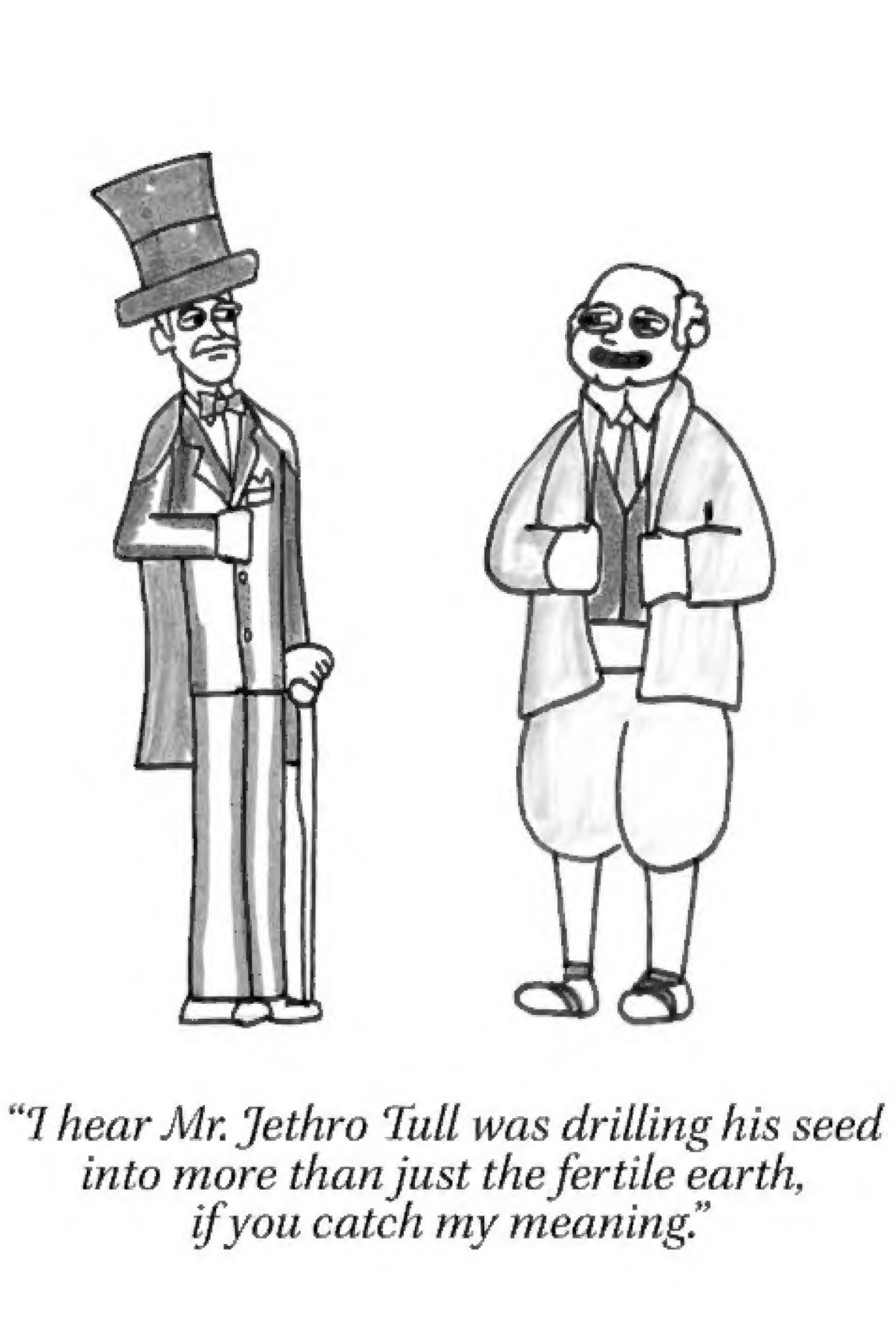
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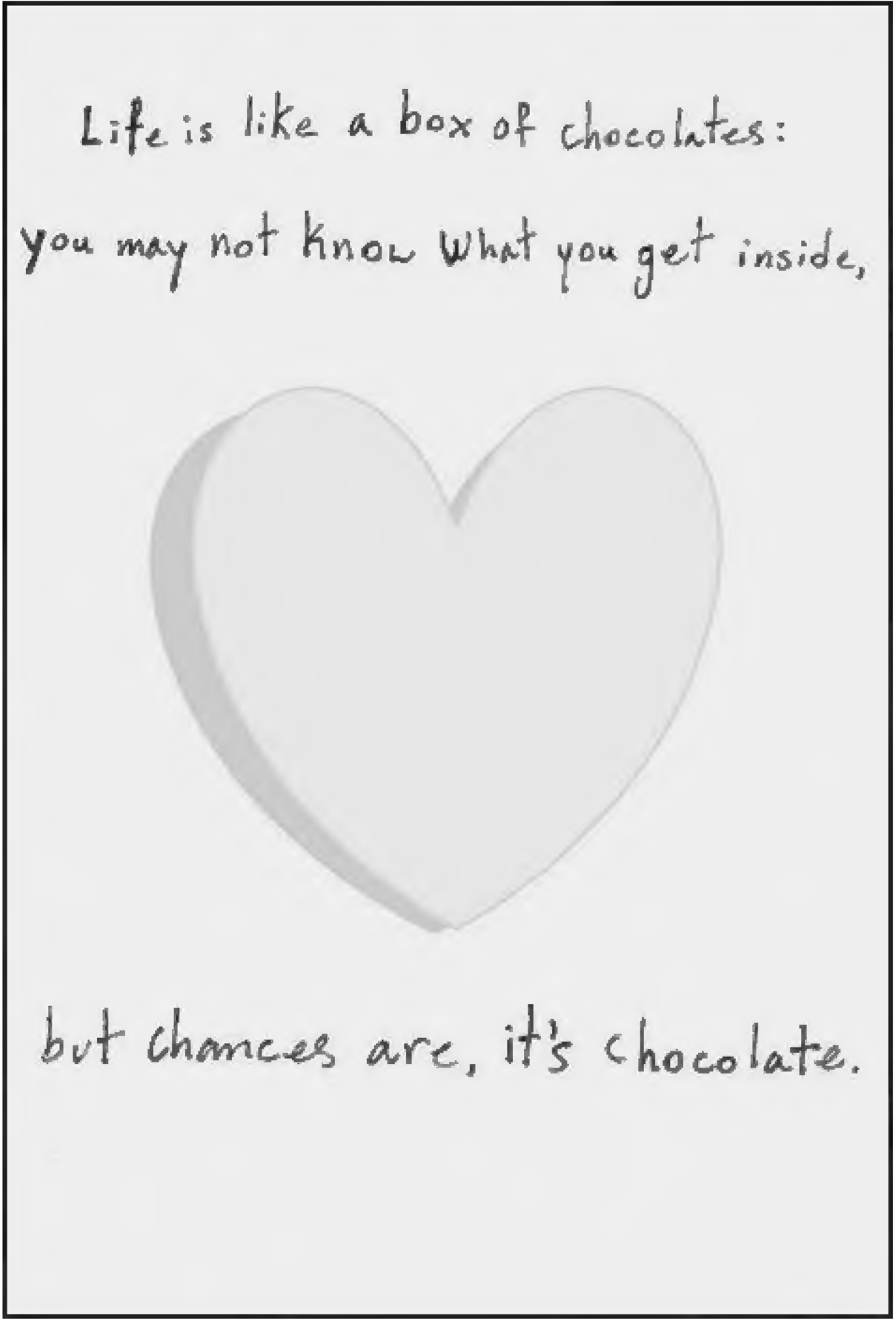
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FARTS

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PURITY TEST EXTRA



MANY HAPPY RETURNS Nikki Nekro chokes out Vincent Ross for his birthday. ZENGRENG HAO

askDr. Donna

WRITTEN BY Dr. Donna Cave

Thursday is **Valentine's Day**, a day when countless children have their self-worth measured by the number of cute little stylized red and pink hearts dropped in their Kleenex mailboxes. It's hard to see how the anatomic shape of a beefy, muscular heart pumping 1.5 million barrels of red crude in a lifetime in any way translates to the "I love you" icon that adorns many teenage girls' notebooks. The State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game website presents a recipe for stuffed moose heart, complete with a picture of a young woman in braids proudly holding out the gargantuan trophy with both hands. While it may have inspired Alaskan big game hunter Sarah Palin to write her bestseller *America By Heart*, this gastronomic delight doesn't strike me as an aphrodisiac in any culture. So how did the iconic heart symbol become associated with love? It's a medical story, a history lesson and a cautionary

tale for single resource-based economies everywhere.

In the 7th century BC, Greek islanders from Thera were having a few overpopulation problems, and set sail for North Africa, where they founded the city of Cyrene. Not only did they find land, they found extreme wealth in the form of a plant. What they discovered was a fennel relative called Silphium that became so important to the economy it was stamped onto the coin of the realm. As with modern-day fennel, the herb was tasty, but also turned out to have multiple medicinal properties, and one in particular led to it being widely exported to the wealthier nations of the ancient world. The seed was perfectly Valentine heart-shaped, and this may be where the modern heart icon came from. How did a seed get associated with love? The medical effect was contraception, and by Roman historical accounts, it was efficacious. Physicians and scholars alike recorded its value, and Rome herself saw a considerable decline in birth rate during the peak of the plant's availability.

Unfortunately, the seed proved

difficult to propagate outside its natural growing habitat and became more and more in demand until eventually it became worth its weight in silver. By 74 BC, Cyrene had become part of a Roman province ruled by a series of one-year governors who had no incentive to think beyond short-term profits. Livestock grazing, over-harvesting and greed caused the Silphium plant population to decline dangerously, and by the end of the first century AD, the last remaining stalk was sent to Emperor Nero, ending 600 years of reliable contraception that wasn't reproducible until the modern birth control pill was launched in the 1960s.

Today, there are a wide variety of effective contraceptive options, from barrier methods to hormones to IUDs and even tubal ligation. "Wishful thinking" has a fairly high failure rate, so next time your sweetie sends you a Valentine heart, think contraception before you pucker up, unless you aren't worried about preventing the next generation of Valentine's Day-scarred children. No, I'm not bitter.

Health and Wellness questions? E-mail me at askdrdonna@gateway.ualberta.ca or click the link to Ask Dr Donna at thegatewayonline.ca!

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